FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 OCTOBER 1983

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian Offensive — Iranian forces launched a new offensive against Iraqi positions in the Kurdish border area north of Marivan and south of Baneh, Iran stated in military communiques and announcements broadcast by Tehran radio. The reports claimed that Iranian forces captured 100 square km of mountainous Iraqi territory, killed or wounded more than 2,000 Iraqis, captured 316 prisoners, destroyed 20 tanks, and shot down 3 enemy helicopters. The Iranian attack — a combined operation under the command of the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters — also struck at "counterrevolutionaries" in the Kurdish border area, "purging" 48 villages of the rebels, who reportedly suffered more than 150 casualties and were forced to retreat deep into Iraq.

On the other hand, a communique broadcast by Baghdad radio said the Iraqi I Army Corps defeated the enemy offensive, thwarting the Iranian attempt to capture the Iraqi border town of Panjwin. The communique said aircraft struck hard at Iranian units, and an Iraqi military spokesman cited by the radio subsequently announced that Iranian losses included 1,500 men killed and 10 tanks destroyed. The Iraqis launched a counterattack early on 21 October and recaptured some heights from the enemy, according to INA. However, Tehran radio claimed that the Iranians "totally crushed" the Iraqi counteroffensive.

Commenting on the new offensive, INA warned Iran that it will not be able to establish a foothold in Iraqi Kurdistan because both the Iraqi Army and 70,000 Kurdish volunteers are ready to confront the invaders. Meanwhile, Tehran radio's Arabic service called on the "children of 'Ali and Hoseyn" in Iraq to overthrow the Saddam Husayn regime.

Iranian Reaction to U.S. Statements — Reacting to statements by U.S. leaders on the possible closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said President Reagan's attempts to intimidate Iran will have no effect on its morale and determination, Tehran radio reported. He added that if the United States formally abandons its neutrality in the war, this will have little effect since Iran considers that the United States is already supporting Iraq.

Lebanon

Dialogue in Geneva — Switzerland has agreed to allow the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference to take place in Geneva, the Swiss charge d'affaires in Beirut announced in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio on 21 October. Nevertheless, organizational problems, including a shortage of accommodation in Geneva, must be settled before the talks begin, according to Bern radio. Switzerland's confirmation of its willingness to host the dialogue followed a Syrian official announcement that Geneva would be the venue, Paris radio noted. Earlier, in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio, Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri confirmed that "all parties" had agreed on the venue while Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim said the meeting would be held in a "friendly" state.

In another development, Syria's *Tishrin* reported that the United States intends to "freeze" the Israeli-Lebanese agreement before the dialogue meeting in order to avoid debate during the talks, according to Beirut radio.

Security Situation — The Lebanese Army again came under fire in southern Beirut and in Suq al-Gharb, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio claimed that the Lebanese National Resistance inflicted casualties on an IDF patrol in an ambush near An-Nabatiyah. Earlier, the IDF spokesman confirmed that two Israeli border policemen were killed in an ambush near Sidon late on 18 October, ITIM reported.

Decree on Parties — The government has issued a decree banning the formation of any political party with foreign connections, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

PLO Affairs

A Fatah spokesman in Kuwait announced that the PLO leadership in Tripoli, Lebanon, has agreed to the "positive principles" in the reform program recently proposed by the PFLP-DFLP joint command, KUNA reported. In other developments, Hani al-Hasan, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, held talks with Jordanian King Husayn while Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf met with PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, according to Amman and Aden radios. Khalaf also met with PFLP Secretary General George Habash during his visit to Aden, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted. According to Radio Monte Carlo, Habash called on 'Arafat to leave Tripoli because his presence there is preventing the PLO leadership from resuming work.

Jordan

Comment on Israel's 'Propaganda' — Israel is launching a propaganda campaign to cast doubt about Jordan and undermine its pan-Arab stands prior to the forthcoming Arab summit conference, *Sawt ash-Sha'b* declared in an editorial reviewed by Amman radio. The paper cited as examples Israel's "allegations" about a special Jordanian force for use in the Gulf as well as Israeli reports that the United States intends to persuade Jordan to cooperate with Israel as part of a new U.S. peace plan. However, any U.S. plan that ignores the Arab commitment to resolve the Palestine issue will be "imaginary," *Sawt ash-Sha'b* stated. Affirming that Jordan is working for the Arab nation and not for the United States, the paper called on the Arab summit to define a collective Arab defense strategy against all foreign interference in the Gulf and other Arab territories.

Meanwhile, the Tel Aviv paper *Ma'ariv* noted that Israel has reiterated its opposition to the U.S. intention to establish a Jordanian rapid deployment force.

MENA in Amman — MENA will open an office in Amman on 1 November, *Sawt ash-Sha'b* reported.

Oman

PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived in Muscat at the start of a 3-day official visit, XINHUA reported.

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'Arafat Accepts PFLP-DFLP Reform Proposals

LD201104 Kuwait KUNA in English 1016 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 20 (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has accepted the reform proposals presented by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] on a settlement for the six-month-old rift within the mainstream Fatah commando movement, the Fatah office here announced last night.

A spokesman for the office said the acceptance was announced by the deputy general commander of the Palestinian resistance forces, Khalil al-Wazir, who is currently in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli with 'Arafat. The spokesman said "the Palestinian revolution leadership had responded to the reform program set by the PFLP and the DFLP last Sunday" and affirmed that the principles embodied at the program constitute a positive stand that the Fatah movement supports and adheres to.

The spokesman quoted Al-Wazir as saying that "the Fatah leadership agrees to all positive principles stipulated in the PFLP and DFLP reform program, particularly those which stressed the legitimacy of the PLO and the independence of the Palestinian decision away from attempts aimed at containing the revolution." He also said that the Fatah leadership welcomes the principles calling for "tackling all issues and negative aspects within the legitimate bodies emanating from the keenness on the unity of the PLO and its institutions."

The program announced by the PFLP and the DFLP in Kuwait last Sunday called for reform measures within the PLO and rejected "the hegemony of a Palestinian movement over the others."

In an implicit criticism of 'Arafat, the two Palestinian groups deplored "the unilateral hegemonic trend" in the PLO which encouraged opportunism and the emergence of a bureaucratic and bourgeois group within the PLO institutions." The PFLP and the DFLP also called for bolstering relations with Syria, whose ties with 'Arafat had rapidly deteriorated since the eruption of the rift within the Fatah movement. The program also criticized the trend for "dealing with the imperialist American plans and failure to distinguish between reactionary and nationalist regimes", adding that democratic reform necessitates adherence to the PLO charter and abandoning the political settlements of surrender. The program also called for determining relations with the Arab countries according to their stands toward the U.S. and its settlements of surrender, and rejected the confederation with Jordan, the U.S. President Ronald Reagan peace plan, and any ties with Egypt.

AD-DUSTUR Reports Yasir 'Arafat Interview

JN201210 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 20 Oct 83 p 11

[Nabil 'Amr's dispatch from Tripoli, Lebanon]

[Excerpt] My trip to Tripoli, in northern Lebanon, was fraught with many dangers. While in Cyprus, where I was preparing to leave for Tripoli, many warned me against making this trip and tried to dissuade me from going through with it. But the quest for troubles and truth, and my meeting with Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] prevailed over all my fears and obstacles. After a hazardous voyage in the Mediterranean, where Israeli gunboats are patrolling the area, I arrived at the Unified Palestinian Information office in the Al-Baddawi camp in Tripoli. A short while after my arrival at the office, where many foreign and Arab correspondents were present, Al-Khityar [the old man; 'Arafat's nickname] entered. We shook hands and embraced. Abu 'Ammar then told me: I was about to visit Jordan before coming here.

I said: Do you still intend to visit Jordan?

He said: God willing, I will visit Jordan as soon as possible to meet with my brother His Majesty King Husayn.

The other correspondents, who also had appointments with the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, began by asking their questions, at the end of which they all left and I alone remained, hoping to have an exclusive interview with Abu 'Ammar. Abu 'Ammar, however, began to receive his aides, to review the affairs of the hour with them, and to sign official documents. He turned to me and said: I am staying here. Go and tour the area to convey an image of the situation, and God willing, we will meet tomorrow.

I said: What is the situation in Tripoli?

He said: You will see for yourself. We are under Syrian siege on the land, and the sea is full of Israeli and U.S. naval units. Some of our best young men have been kidnapped.

I said: What will happen after this?

He said: We shall triumph.

I said: You are optimistic then?

He said: Ask my brothers. He pointed to some of his aides and his officers. I was in Beirut and I believe that no leader in the 20th century has gone through an experience such as the Beirut experience. Even then, I remained optimistic.

I said: What is the source of this optimism?

He said: First of all, my faith in God; second, my belief that right and justice will inevitably triumph; and third, my belief in our people's capabilities. I am a faithful man, and when I am right, I fear no one.

I said: You are speaking about the strategic dimension of the Palestinian struggle, while I am speaking about the Syrian siege on Tripoli and the fragmentation and division that is currently taking place in the Palestinian arena?

He said: This question must be posed to the other side. However, I hope that our brothers will return to their senses and that our brothers in Syria will reassess their calculations. I have the right to ask about what you refer to as a dissidence movement within Fatah: Why is this dissidence occurring only in Syria and only in areas which are under the control of the Syrian

forces? Is this mere coincidence? In any case, Fatah, which is the conscience of the Palestinians, does not constitute a piece of land or a position. Fatah covers the world at large. More importantly is the fact that our kinfolk in the occupied territories who constitute the essence of this cause have been aware of the truth from the beginning. They and all our kinfolk wherever they may be are capable of protecting their revolution and their legitimacy. History will not be lenient with those who try to play havoc with the Palestinian people's destiny and their national and independent decisionmaking.

Al-Khityar left the Unified Palestinian Information office in the hope that I would meet with him the next day. However, I could not meet with him then. The meeting took place on the evening of the third day after strenuous efforts. At that time, there was increasing talk about efforts for a Palestinian-Syrian reconciliation, partly undertaken by Syrian Defense Squad Commander Rif'at al-Asad. I asked Abu 'Ammar about the efforts to reconcile him and the Syrians.

He said: The efforts to reconcile us with our brothers in Syria, including the efforts being exerted by [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the coordination committee in Tripoli, are still continuing.

I said: Can you tell us about the contents of the messages you exchanged with Rif'at al-Asad?

Abu 'Ammar kept silent and did not reply, although *Ad-Dustur* had earlier published the messages exchanged between the two sides.

I said: Will you think of new forms of struggle if the Syrian siege of Tripoli continues?

He said: This revolution has been moving from one siege and suffering to another siege and suffering. This is its long march. It is longer and tougher than the march of Mao Tse-tung in terms of geography, time, and politics. At least Mao Tse-tung used to travel about in China, whereas I am forced to move about on a flying carpet.

I said: Some of those who have recently joined the dissidents called themselves a committee of mediation and democratic dialogue.

He said: Who?

I said: There was a group which presented itself within this framework calling itself a committee of democratic dialogue.

He said: They are in fact four officers who chose to run away from the siege and battles. They worked hard so that they would not be subjected to the siege. There are many apostates in revolutions. There was an apostasy against Prophet Muhammad, may God's peace and blessings be upon him. There was an apostasy in the Algerian revolution. Even in the communist October Revolution in the Soviet Union, a division took place between the Bolsheviks and Mensheviks as well as between the Red Guards and White Guards. There are divisions in all revolutions; this is the law of revolutions. He added: However, there have been Arab attempts for a long time. For instance, in 1976 there was a Syrian attempt to control the Palestinian decision through Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], Misbah al-Budayri, Ahmad Jibril, and many others. They are now using the same names to dominate the Palestinian decision. Some names are reiterated, such as Ahmad Jibril, who is selling his homeland in the slave market in the same manner as many things are sold there.

He said: I sim[illegible]y want to say that since I was elected in the name of the Palestinian people and according to the will of these people, I cannot but be sincere to the trust and responsibility entrusted to me. The matter is not a personal one; it is the future of the Palestinian people on the political map in the Middle East — a map which is being charted. I said in 1982, before the war, that a map will be charted for the Arab region.

He continued: What others want is to cancel the PLO, the independent Palestinian decisionmaking, and the Palestinian people's rights because the PLO means the Palestinian people's rights, identity, and aspirations. Therefore, they feel it should be crossed out from this political map that is being charted for the region. The subject is not that of some agents working for Arab intelligence organs in this or that country. The subject is much larger than that. It is a large plot aimed against the Palestinian people's rights.

He said: I emphasize that I will defend the trust put in me and the responsibility entrusted to me until death. Once I feel unable to defend this trust, I will call the PNC into session and say: This is your merchandise given back to you. Look for someone else who can defend this trust better than me.

I said: Can we in Jordan know the actual strength of the dissidents?

He said: They are just a few names, a few organizational and military cadres, about 240 to 250. (A high-ranking officer interrupted here and said: cadres and elements). Abu 'Ammar continued: Political and military cadres and elements.

I said: Do you intend to call a meeting of the PNC at present?

He said: I raised this subject frankly and clearly. My brothers already know that I raised this subject during the last meeting of the PLO Central Council in Tunis. I told them that we should hold a meeting of the PNC. I presented to the Central Council the signatures of 132 PNC members requesting such a meeting. This is double the number of signatures required to authorize the convocation of such a meeting.

The entire Central Council requested me, in fact beseeched me, not to call the PNC meeting. This was because I told them that I would call the PNC meeting for a vote of confidence. They beseeched me not to do that, and they all requested me to withdraw my request for a PNC meeting. They all said: This is absolutely out of the question. He added: hyphenation Nevertheless, I believe that in the face of any attempt to detract from Palestinian legitimacy, we must convene a PNC meeting so as not to allow anyone, whether he is Arab or non-Arab, to prejudice Palestinian legitimacy.

I said: Do they not believe that the meetings now taking place in Damascus are an attempt to undermine Palestinian legitimacy, especially when we know that these meetings between the leaders of the various Palestinian groups and the dissidents are taking place in the office of PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum?

He said: No. Actually, an attempt was made during the meeting that took place 2 days ago in the office of PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum. However, my brothers in the PFLP and DFLP issued a statement in which they stressed that all that had been said [about the meeting] was not correct. It was not what took place at the meeting. They emphasized two points: their insistence on the independent Palestinian decisionmaking; and the independence of the Palestinian institutions, the need to prevent any split within the PLO, and the need to safeguard the unity of the PLO on the basis of the political program.

I said: Do you expect a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee soon?

He said: I would like to ask: Can my brother members come here despite the siege? It all depends on the strength of the siege on me.

I said: Do the Syrians still stop Palestinian leaders from coming here?

He said: No doubt. When I say a siege I mean a siege. Everyone is banned from entering this region. I regret to say that the Syrian siege on the land is matched by an Israeli siege on the sea. The Israelis have detained certain leaderships, including high-ranking officers who were on their way here at my request for tasks concerning the Palestinian military command.

I said: You said that you will visit Jordan soon. Does this idea still stand?

He said: Yes, I was supposed to visit Jordan before coming here, but the absence of His Majesty the King in a tour of the Far East precluded that.

I said: Will the confederation between Jordan and the PLO be the main topic of your discussion with His Majesty King Husayn?

He said: An agreement was reached in the PNC that our relations with Jordan should be on a confederal basis. That was the decision of the PNC. Any talk with Jordan stems from our abidance by the PNC decisions.

I said: Do you believe that increasing Syrian pressure on the PLO forced it to adopt political stands that were linked to U.S. proposals?

He said: The matter is completely exposed now. The others are now required to explain what is happening.

I said: You are always warning of a conspiracy aimed at partitioning Lebanon. Do you believe that new forms of alliances will emerge in the region?

He said: I said, and I still say, warning my Arab nation, that it faces danger if Lebanon is partitioned. In 1947 and 1948 Palestine was partitioned. However, only the land was partitioned and not the people. Afterward, the entire land was devoured but the people remained united. Now, where does the support for confronting the conspiracy come from? It comes to me from our people inside and outside the occupied land. This is the strongest form of daily support that I receive. Passionate and enormous support comes from this deep-rooted, struggling, and persevering people, who despite their wounds, and whenever they feel that their revolution is threatened, rush to rally around it and form a protective shield for it.

He added: I say again that our Palestinian people, who are devoted in protecting their revolution, will continue their struggle until they achieve their aims no matter how long it takes. I know that the dilemma is great, but the stronger that darkness becomes, the nearer dawn gets. Believe me, yesterday, 1600 young male and female Palestinians were graduated. These are 1600 heroes and heroines, and this is the continued support for the revolution.

He said: I reiterate that the partitioning of Lebanon is regrettably a U.S.-Israeli conspiracy with the collusion of some Arab sides. They aim to partition Lebanon into sectarian statelets in preparation to balkanize the region. This balkanization was pointed out by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in one of his articles where he said that the region must be balkanized in order to control it. I say to my Arab nation and to all the Arab leaders from my besieged position that the fire that is raging in my house will reach my brother's house and afteward, my cousin's house. Then, it will be too late to do anything.

He added: The Crusader wars, as they call them, and which we call the wars of the Franks [Europeans], could not control our region for 200 years except by appointing sectarian kings. Thus, I am sounding the alarm.

I said: When we met 2 months ago you talked about the siege of Tripoli. Do you have any information?

He said: This is true. For example, I said in the PNC session about 8 months ago that the Palestinians and the Lebanese National Movement are required to leave the Al-Masna'-Shatawrah- Ba'labakk triangle in September at the very least. Some evacuation took place under pressure and the force of arms from the agent forces at the instructions of Syrian intelligence officers. No one knew of them and some organizations were told about this by their commands. [as published]

I said: The PLO Central Council formed a reconciliation committee, the 18-man committee, which issued a statement announcing the formation of an interim transitional committee to administer the Fatah movement. What is the real stand of the legitimate Fatah command on the reconciliation committee statement?

He said: First, the committee was formed for two reasons: 1) To mediate between us and the Syrian brothers. Unfortunately, this committee could not do this and could not meet with President al-Asad. Therefore, half of the committee's mission was

cancelled. 2) The committee toured the Palestinian arena. I have the right to say that the committee did not come to Tripoli to meet Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir]. A more serious issue is that the committee made a decision as if it was an arbitration committee. It is not that. Even if we assume it is an arbitration committee, then it has transgressed against the Palestinian legitimate authority. This committee was formed by the Palestinian legitimate authority, and no committee which is formed by the Palestinian legitimate authority has the right to make an announcement, express an opinion, or issue a statement without referring to the Executive Committee chairman. This was the committee's third sin.

He added: There is another thing. I wanted to know their opinions when we were besieged. Do we not belong to the Palestinian people? Are the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid not Palestinian camps, and the people in Tripoli not part of the Arab nation? Is the Israeli siege from the sea imposed on Haiphong? Even if it is a siege imposed on Haiphong, the free men in the world must move.

I said: Can we say that this committee has failed?

He said: I wish them every success. Of course, I ask them now to answer my questions that I have submitted to the [PLO] Central Council and that I presented to them when they issued their statement and came to Tunis.

I said: Will there be a meeting of the Fatah Revolutionary Council?

He said: When we see that the situation or any developments require so, then we will call on the Revolutionary Council to meet.

I said: Are you going to implemennt the Fatah Central Committee's decision calling for the dismissal of the dissidents?

He said: I am not authorized to talk about this subject.

I said: If the dissidents form a new organization, what effect will this organization have on the PLO?

He said: There is a difference between the formation of a new organization and the tampering that has taken place with the most sacred sanctities of the Palestinian people. What has taken place is an attempt to liquidate the PLO, to shed blood, to chase strugglers, and to kill the heroes. What has taken place is also an attempt to achieve what Israel could not achieve. Through those Arab forces, these agents attempted to achieve what Israel could not achieve in Beirut. Such subjects must be submitted to the PNC.

I said: How do you view the PLO's image in the international arena in the wake of the dissension and the Syrian siege?

He said: Let us say that it is not a dissension. I do not consider it a dissension. For example, have you heard about any such thing outside Damascus and the territories occupied by the Syrian forces? There is a [Palestinian] organization in every part of the world, so is it a coincidence that the dissension has only taken place among those who are subjected to Syria and who are directed by Syrian and Libyan intelligence? Do they belong to Fatah, given that Fatah extends to all the places where the Palestinian people are present? We even have a students' unit in China, and it belongs to Fatah. Why are the so-called dissidents only those who are present in Damascus under the control of Syrian intelligence? Is this question not worth asking? It is true that there have been some mistakes, but what has taken place is a betrayal of the Palestinian revolution and the martyrs' blood.

Abu 'Ammar was then preparing to leave for a meeting with former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami. He concluded by saying: Our people inside and outside the occupied territory who did not forget Abu Jildah and Al-'Arnit, will not forget the struggle of their sons and the plotters against them. Our people will punish the plotters because they have played havoc with their sanctities.

Hungarian Daily Interviews Yasir 'Arafat

LD200923 Budapest MTI in English 0613 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Budapest, Oct 20 (MTI) — Thursday's *Magyar Hirlap* carries an interview given to the daily's correspondent in Tripoli, with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Palestine Liberation Organization. In reply to a question on the state and prospects of the Palestinian resistance movement, 'Arafat said: "The people are the vanguard of our resistance movement, hardened in struggle against the conspiracy of Israel and American imperialists against us. We are prime targets in the region because of our importance. Although we keep on facing serious conflicts, we overcome them. During the siege of West Beirut, for example, we held our ground for almost 80 days, [words indistinct] and left the battlefield heads held high. In occupied south Lebanon we are continuing to fight shoulder to shoulder with Lebanese patriots, against the Israeli army."

On the strike within the PLO and rumours that "'Arafat has been cornered," he said: "Firstly, there is not a real rift within the movement, it is just that some Arab countries are interfereing in Palestinian internal affairs. This is not the first time this has happened and, unfortunately, probably won't be the last. They want to slice us like a piece of cheese. We have always been one of the most important political factors of the Middle East crisis and some people have managed to find [word indistinct] within the PLO and are undoubtedly causing serious difficulty to us. Still, we are here. As to the second part of your question...I should like to say only that it is too early to bury me."

Q: Do you reject all the demands of the opposition forces or only some of them, and what critical comments you consider justified?

"I have to stress again that this is not a Palestinian dispute. There is a Trojan horse smuggled into our midst. In spite of this we are in favour of solving problems through peaceful means, and this refers to disputed questions with our Syrian brothers as well. The debate cannot be decided with force...our doors are open to dialogue."

Q: What do you think would be the minimum condition of overcoming the present crisis of the PLO and the Arab World?

"First of all, genuine return to the Fes peace plan adopted by the Arab League last year. Every Arab country approved this plan, the Palestine National Council endorsed it in Algiers early this year, and the socialist countries agreed to it. It should serve as a starting platform. I have been accused totally without ground of comparing it with the Reagan plan. Such comparison is out of the question."

Al-Wazir Discusses Fatah Support for Reform

NC202148 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has announced that the Fatah command stands for all the positive premises that have been brought about by the joint statement of the PFLP and the DFLP, particularly those premises connected with preservation of the PLO'slegitimacy and the independence of the Palestinian decisionmaking — keeping it safe from the attempts of containment and custodianship — and those premises connected with the remedying of all issues within the PLO'S legitimate frameworks. In a statement, Brother Abu Jihad stressed the need to preserve the unity of the PLO and of its institutions as a goal for which our Palestinian people have been struggling for many years.

Habash Requests 'Arafat To Leave Tripoli

JN201743 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] AFP has reported from Aden that George Habash has asked Yasir 'Arafat to leave Tripoli because his presence there stands in the way of the resumption of the activities of the PLO command institions.

Al-Khatib Reveals Forces Ready To Go to Tripoli

LD210828 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0743 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Oct (KUNA) — In a statement published here today,the commander of the Palestine Liberation Army in Jordan, Colonel Na'im al-Khatib has revealed that his forces still have a battalion [katibah] in Al-Biqa', which is ready to go to Tripoli, north Lebanon.

In a statement to *As-Siyasah*, Col al-Khatib said: Tariq al-Khadra does not represent the Palestinian Liberation Army; he represents the hidden hand that has put him in his present position. He added that his forces — the Al-Badr forces — are prepared to go to Tripoli to confront the seige that has been imposed on the Palestinian camps by the forces of Al-Khadra. He added: But the honest officers in the Al-Khadra forces will not open fire on their people; evidence of this are the events of 1976.

Replying to a question by *As-Siyasah* he said: We are receiving full moral support from the general command of the Jordanian Armed Forces, but all our forces' expenses and salaries are paid for from the Palestinian national fund. He explained that the Palestinians in Jordan are subject to the law of conscription in the Palestinian Liberation Army and that this takes place in coordination with the Jordanian command. Al-Khatib referred to the Al-Badr forces' role during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and said: I am proud that I commanded these forces, which fought bravely everywhere.

Skirmishes at Palestinian Camp Reported

NC201302 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] In southern Lebanon, an Israeli force comprising three tanks and nine personnel carriers went through Bisri at 0930 today toward Mtullah, Dayr al-Mukhallis, and Mazra'at ad-Dahr. Security reports say that bursts of gunfire and explosions were still being heard inside the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp until this morning. It has been learned that there are differences between armed Palestinian groups on the one hand and the Palestinian National Guard, which is armed by Israel, on the other.

Husayn 'Akar, an official in charge of the Palestinian National Guard, was injured a few days ago during skirmishes with Palestinian groups in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp.

Joint Forces Attack Israeli Patrol in Sidon

JN201802 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] A group of the Palestinian-National Lebanese joint forces attacked a Zionist military patrol in Sidon, southern Lebanon. The machinegun and rocket attack destroyed two enemy vehicles and killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation, explaining that the patrol was ambushed by the joint forces who showered it with rockets and bullets. The spokesman merely said that the attack was a violent one.

Reporters and informed observers commented on the operation by saying that this was the most dangerous Palestinian attack in the Sidon area since the Israeli withdrawal to the Al-Awwali line. A group of the joint forces fired three Katyusha rockets at an enemy position south of Az-Zahrani River. The rockets hit their targets causing material damage to the enemy positions as well as killing or wounding several enemy soldiers.

West Bank Attack on Israeli Patrol Reported

JN201807 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Despite the difficult circumstances through which the Palestinian revolution is passing, and despite all Zionist security measures, a group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland carried out a daring attack against a Zionist military patrol in the city of Nabulus in the occupied West Bank. The machinegun and handgrenade attack destroyed one of the patrol's vehicles killing or wounding its occupants.

Reports from the occupied homeland said that immediately afterward, the Zionist occupation authorities rushed military reinforcements inside the city of Nabulus, cordoned off the area, and carried out an extensive search for our heroic revolutionaries, who returned safely to base. The occupation authorities imposed a curfew on the old quarters of Nabulus. An atmosphere of resistance prevailed among the Palestinian citizens against the occupation forces whose military patrols were hysterically roaming the city. A Zionist spokesman admitted our revolutionaries' daring operation, and as usual, did not reveal its losses.

In another development, a Zionist spokesman claimed that the Zionist police discovered a large explosive charge in Kfar Saba, northeast of Tel Aviv. The spokesman claimed that the charge was defused. However, eyewitnesses said that the enemy forces cordoned off the area after a loud explosion was heard. They also said that the enemy forces arrested several Palestinian citizens following the explosion.

Popular Struggle Front on 'Arafat 'Provocations'
JN201648 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front has strongly denounced the campaign of Arab provocations and moves which 'Arafat and his men are carrying out in Tripoli, and affirms that this campaign is part of a major plan to cause more bloodshed in the Palestinian arena.

In a statement in Damascus today, an official source in the front warned against the continuation of this dangerous course, which is doing great harm to the PLO and the Palestine question in general. The source said that these provocations, the creation of tension, and utilization of trends hostile to the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and Syria only serve the enemy's camp and plans. The source added that the military concentrations in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps are creating tension in the north and threatening an explosion of the situation that 'Arafat and Khalil Al-Wazir are seeking in order to repeat the massacre in the PFLP-GC base in Al-Baddawi camp and the massacres against the Lebanese Communist Party.

The spokesman called on all the Palestinian revolution groups to assume their historical responsibility by checking this serious deviation and the destructive policy pursued by the deviationist rightwing leadership in Fatah.

Fatah Calls for Al-Baddawi Unarmed Demonstration
NC202134 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] In northern Lebanon, the Palestine national liberation movement, Fatah, in the Al-Baddawi camp has called for unarmed participation in the popular demonstration that will commence tomorrow after the Friday prayers from the yard of the big mosque in the camp. This demonstration will be staged in support of the PLO and of its command in the course of their struggle to abort the conspiracy that is being concocted against the Palestinian people and against their revolution, and in denunciation of the steps that have been taken by the Syrian regime to split the PLO. The Al-Baddawi branch of the Fatah movement has urged that no armed men appear in the demonstration to preserve the security of the masses and the safety of the goal.

Travel Ban Imposed on Gaza Strip Residents
WA201702 Rabat Al-Anba' in Arabic 17 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] News reports from the Gaza Strip mention that Israeli occupation authorities over the past 2 days have prevented residents of Gaza and Durri al-Balah who were planning to travel to Jordan and Egypt from leaving. These reports add that the authorities of the Israeli enemy have offered no explanation for this ban.

Arab Initiative on Gulf War in Progress
GF191055 Doha QNA in Arabic 2010 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] London, 18 Oct (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in London today learned from Arab diplomatic sources that Kuwait, the UAE, Syria, and Algeria have made significant progress in the process to launch a joint initiative designed to bring about a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran and to start serious negotiations in order to peacefully resolve the problems between the two countries. Yet these sources, which were described as closely following current developments, abstained from divulging any further details about the nature of the initiative or whether a final agreement has been reached on the initiative.

PLO Commander Supports 'Arafat's Leadership
GF202040 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Colonel Abu al-'Abd Khatab, commander of the Shatila martyrs forces in the PDRY, today held a press conference that was attended by representatives of the local, Arab, and foreign news agencies and press in the PDRY. Brother Col Abu al-'Abd Khatab noted that Brigadier General Tariq al-Khadra does not represent the PLA [Palestine Liberation Army] when he was leading a unit of the army which is known as the unit of Hittin. He added that the PLA consists of the forces of Al-Qadisiyah, Badr, and 'Ayn al-Hilwah, in addition to the forces of As-Sumud, the forces of Sabra, the forces of Shatila and Shuqayf, and other forces.

Brother Abu al-'Abd Khatab pointed out that when Tariq al-Khadra announced his dissidency, he was just representing himself. The coming days will prove that this army with its officers and its heroic fighters who fought in Beirut — and achieved victory in Al-Mathaf, Gallery Sam'an and Al-Laylaky — and the children's blood which was mixed with the Lebanese and Palestinian blood in Beirut, are the most sincere expression of the unity of the Palestinian people, the unity of the PLA, the unity of the independent Palestinian decision and the unity of the Palestinian guns. He continued that this unity baptized with blood cannot be torn up by traitor, by a deviationist, or by an agent, or even by a decision or by a press statement from Brig

Gen Tariq al-Khadra or any Arab. Brother Col Abu al-'Abd Khatab continued: We know well the goal behind the announcement made by Tariq al-Khadra at this time to join the dissidents and to talk in the name of the PLA.

Brother Col Abu al-'Abd Khatab indicated that PLA forces everywhere held press conferences and sent cables to the legitimate leadership of the PLO, foremost of whom is brother leader Yasir 'Arafat, expressing their full loyalty to the PLO, the sole and the legitimate representative. Moreover, they expressed full readiness to defend the independent Palestinian decision away for containment, guardianship, and influence, and from harming the holiness of the decision, which in order to preserve we paid dearly for in Sabra, Shatila, and Tal az-Za'tar, in addition to all the other conspiracies to which our people were exposed during their struggle procession.

The commander of the Shatila martyrs forces said that the officers and the fighters in the forces of Hittin will have a nationalist position. This army will prove it is the army of Palestine and it is the genuine army of the Arab issue that backs every free nationalist. He also described Brig Gen Tariq al-Khadra as having been silent for a long time before becoming disloyal. He added: I hoped that Tariq al-Khadra would aid his besieged people and his revolution which is besieged by land, by sea and by air. But let Tariq al-Khadra know that history is not as merciful as our children, the children of Palestine — who are fed the ammunition of the revolution — and will settle accounts with Tariq and other treasonous people.

Brother Col Abu al-'Abd Khatab went on: I absolutely cannot imagine that anyone who has an iota of love for Palestine directs a bullet to the breast of a Palestinian brother in any position.

Concluding his press conference, Brother Abu al-'Abd stressed that the fighters of Shatila in the PDRY will remain loyal to their political and military leadership and to the PLO, the sole and the legitimate representative, under the leadership of the symbol of the Palestinian struggle and the symbol of the Palestinian revolution, Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar. He also denounced all the efforts designed to destroy, to contain the revolution, or to create substitutes for the revolution. He added: We will defend our revolution, our symbol, because it represents the struggle of this struggling Palestinian people.

Jordan Refugee Camps Support PLA Commander

JN201920 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan have sent a cable to Colonel Na'im al-Khatib, commander of the Badr forces in the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA], in which the masses of the Palestinian refugee camps expressed support for the statement which the PLA commander in Jordan announced in a press conference yesterday.

The cable said: Your historic decision was received with great satisfaction by the masses of your heroic people. You were, and still are, the symbol of militarism that stands alongside its leader during all stages of struggle.

Brother Colonel, your people are not surprised by your stands because you were the first to participate with your forces in the battles of steadfastness and honor in Beirut. Brother Commander in Chief Abu 'Ammar said of these forces: We were very proud of them and they were like a rapid deployment force in the interest of our people.

Brother Col Na'im al-Khatib, your brothers in the refugee camps record with great appreciation your courageous stands that support Brother Commander in Chief Abu 'Ammar. They ask you to continue the struggle until liberation under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat, commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Algeria Envoy Meets 'Arafat, Expresses Support

JN201758 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1728 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat today received an Algerian envoy who reaffirmed Algeria's support for the PLO's leadership. Reporting this today, the Palestinian news agency WAFA added that 'Arafat explained to the Algerian envoy the difficult situation in northern Lebanon.

'Arafat Receives Message From Andropov

GF201528 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 19 Oct 83 p 1

['Amid ash-Shanti dispatch]

[Text] *Al-Qabas* has learned that Yasir 'Arafat received an urgent message from Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov that emphasizes Moscow's support for the PLO under his leadership. The message also stressed the continuation of efforts in order to prevent Syrian-Palestinian military confrontation.

Palestinian sources also told *Al-Qabas* that the Soviet Union asked Ahmad Jubril to indefinitely postpone his visit to Moscow. The sources added that Suadi efforts with Syria have been intensified during the past few days in order to prevent internecine fighting in north Lebanon. *Al-Qabas* has also learned that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine decided to close down its offices in Damascus and to transfer the lesser administrative functions to Algiers.

In a dispatch from Aden, Palestinian sources told *Al-Qabas* that Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Communist Action Organization, called up Abu 'Ammar and Abu Jihad and expressed support for the legitimate leadership of the PLO.

Syrian Role in U.S. Strategy Examined

NC210852 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Oct 83

["Political" commentary: "Enticing Lies in U.S. Strategy"]

[Text] Brothers, our struggling masses: Every day we read and hear official and unofficial leaks about new elements in U.S. strategy in the Middle East — elements based on a new role for

Syria in which it will be given new regional gains in return for its gradual alignment toward the U.S. orbit and in return for its liquidation of the PLO, and its closure of the file of the Palestinian cause. Naturally, if we apply the proverb that says there is no smoke without fire, these official and unofficial leaks have a large basis of reality. There are many indications to prove this:

1. These leaks are issued by persons who are playing a key role in formulating U.S. policy. The leaks are also issued by U.S. media services that have close connections with the U.S. Administration's main departments, the most important of which is the U.S. intelligence department.

2. Observers of Syrian behavior, beginning with the siege of Beirut and ending with the mountain battles, notice a Syrian compliance with the U.S. programs. They also notice U.S. satisfaction with this Syrian behavior, whether in the form of U.S. statements assuring and encouraging the Syrian role, or in the form of expanding the powers of the U.S. envoys who have efficiently succeeded in dealing with the Syrian authorities, especially Robert McFarlane, who has become the U.S. national security adviser.

3. The continuing Syrian role against the PLO has become exposed to an extent that gives credence to these leaks about Syria's agreement to play a role in the new U.S. strategy. Since the plot of 9 May this year and up to this moment, the Syrian role is increasingly being exposed daily, and is creating more tools for inflicting the greatest harm to the PLO and to the Palestinian people.

It is illogical that the Syrian regime should adopt this flagrantly hostile attitude toward our people without being pushed to do so with suitable blandishments. However, we remind the Syrian regime that the elements of blandishment in U.S. strategy are not always achievable and are not always successful. The greatest victim of U.S. blandishments was As-Sadat, who replaced the Israeli Yamit settlement with a wide-scale U.S. occupation of territory and a wide-scale Israeli occupation of relations [as heard]. As-Sadat then met his tragic end.

Although we in the Palestinian revolution will strongly resist this U.S. strategy and all its consequences, we hope the Syrians will lessen their enthusiasm for this U.S. strategy before the disaster occurs and before it is too late.

Fatah's Khalid al-Hasan on Rift with Syria

PM210828 London Al-Hawadith in Arabic 21 Oct 83 p 27

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, by 'Adil Malak — date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] *Al-Hawadith*: The situation between the PLO, particularly Fatah, and Syria has reached the point of explosion. Have Palestinian-Syrian relations reached the point of no return? What are the implications of the "confrontation" between Syria and Fatah?

Khalid al-Hasan: I can say that relations between Syria and Fatah and the PLO, or rather the question of the legitimacy of the PLO from the Syrian standpoint, has reached the peak of tragedy although it has not yet reached the point of final explosion. Political clashes have reached the point of attempts to cause a military explosion but such an explosion has not begun yet. I sincerely hope that it will not begin because if it does it will cause destruction whose geographical and political extent nobody can foretell.

Al-Hawadith: But reports indicate that a political clash could be one of the means that will be used to decide the situation.

Khalid al-Hasan: This is unfortunately one of the schools of thought in our Arab world, but as far as the PLO is concerned it has always proved something different. The more military clashes take place between any Arab party and the PLO the more the Arab masses become angry with the Arab regimes. The PLO is enjoying more public support than ever before. Moreover, there will eventually be an Arab intervention in the situation [between Syria and the PLO], particularly since there is more than one party involved in it.

Al-Hawadith: Facing this situation and trying to save what can be saved is the responsibility of the Palestinians and the Arabs. What, in your opinion, should the Palestinians and the Arabs do?

Khalid al-Hasan: The Palestinians should do what they are doing now — show maximum self-restraint and not react to any military or political action in a manner that would lead to a military clash between us and the Syrians. So far we have shown such restraint, particularly during the shelling that took place in Tripoli 2 nights ago. Our brothers have shown impressive discipline in not replying to the shelling, which reminded everybody of the shelling during the well-known seige of Beirut. On the political level we must hold contacts with the Arab countries in the hope that they will be able to delay or avert action that might lead to a Syrian-Palestinian military clash. This is the reason we are in Saudi Arabia, particularly since the momentum of Saudi success in Lebanon might encourage Saudi arabia to exert similar efforts to halt the deterioration in Syrian-Palestinian relations, which, if they explode, will put the Arab countries in a more embarassing situation before their masses as well as in conflict with themselves and their conscience. They will be compelled to choose between Palestine and Syria, and the masses are always with the Palestine problem.

Al-Hawadith: It is observed that the escalation in the Syrian-Palestinian dispute started after the well-known attempt to undermine the Palestinian ranks and the emergence of the dissident movement under Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa] and his group...

Khalid al-Hasan: (interrupting) This was a military coup movement in the fascist style; it is not dissidence or a mutiny. It can be clearly seen that this attempt did not succeed in any place outside Syria and Al-Biqa'. Even its success in Syria was not a popular success because the masses are silent; they are silent because of repression, not because they approve of what is happening. A few days ago the Syrians announced that 70 dissident officers, including 50 pilots, had joined the movement. Incidentally, Fatah does not have this number of pilots; all it has is 40 pilots, of whom 12 are outside Syria. The officers whose names were announced as having joined the movement were

particularly brave when they announced, again from Damascus, that they had not joined it and that they are still loyal and adhere to Yasir 'Arafat's legitimate leadership. For this reason we cannot say that the coup movement has achieved any success. The fact that it is continuing is not due to its inherent strength but to foreign protection of it.

Al-Hawadith: The Palestinian leadership is once again facing a great responsibility. What in your opinion should Yasir 'Arafat do?

Khalid al-Hasan: Yasir 'Arafat should immediately leave Tripoli; however this departure may hurt him because he hates to be away from the fighters and strugglers. All his life he lived with his brother soldiers and officers; he must overcome this emotional attachment and leave Tripoli in order to be able to act freely and to call for an extraordinary and urgent Arab summit to discuss this situation which is more serious than any previous situation. It is serious not only for the Palestine problem but also for Arab relations, because the explosion of the situation will face everybody with the question of choosing between Syria and Palestine. This in itself will be a tragic situation whose consequences only God knows. Therefore, he should leave quickly in order to act quickly so that such action will be for the sake not only of confirming the Palestinian legitimacy, but also of setting things in motion so that decisions will be taken both with regard to the dissidents themselves and the situation as a whole before it becomes beyond control and discipline become nonexistent.

Fatah Officials Hold Meeting in Amman 20 Oct
JN202144 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Hani al-Hasan and Rafiq an-Natshah, members of the Fatah Central Committee, have reviewed the march of the Palestinian question throughout past decades and the hopes that were pinned on the establishment of the PLO to fulfill the hopes of the Palestinian people regarding repatriation and the right to self-determination. The dialogue, which was held at the PLO's office in Amman this evening, and which was attended by members of the PNC and the PLO Central Council who reside in Amman, dealt with the current developments, dissension, and the various efforts in the Palestinian arena. They also reviewed Arab and international mediation efforts to put an end to Syrian interference in Fatah affairs. They said: We have used almsot all means and are still continuing to exert efforts. They said: Had the difference been a Palestinian-Palestinian one, it would have been settled within hours.

The meeting also dealt with the efforts of the reconciliation committee, which was formed by the PLO Central Council, its contacts with the various parties, its issuance of the recent statement, and the circumstances which necessitated that Yasir 'Arafat return to Tripoli.

The Fatah Central Committee members called for halting any accusations and vituperations. They stressed the importance of the independent Palestinian decisionmaking and the Palestinian legitimacy.

Jordan's Prime Minister Receives Fatah Officials
JN191538 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Amman, 19 Oct (PETRA) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office today Rafiq an-Natshah and Hani al-hasan, members of the Fatah Movement Central Comittee. They reviewed some aspects of the Palestinian situation in light of the developments in the Palestinian arena, the PLO political action objectives on the Arab level, and the process of strenthening the steadfastness in the occupied Palestinian territory. They also exchanged views concerning several Arab issues and current problems within the framework of safeguarding and strengthening the PLO legitimacy. The meeting was attended by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of the occupied territories affairs.

Salah Khalaf Meets Habash, Hawatimah in Aden
JN201735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, and the accompanying delegation, met in Aden with Brothers George Habash, secretary general of the PFLP, and Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. During this meeting, they discussed the current Arab and Palestinian situation, the dangers facing the Palestinian revolution, which are aimed at striking its unity and liquidating it, and the means of confronting these attempts. They also discussed the internal situation in the Palestinian arena and means of bolstering the national unity within the framework of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Those attending also reviewed the recent Tripoli incidents and their impact on the Palestinian arena. Our radio correspondent has learned that the meeting was positive and highly successful.

PDRY Chairman Receives Fatah Officials
GF201526 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received Brothers Abu Iyad and Abu Mazin, Fatah Central Committee members,and Abu Nizar, the secretary of the Fatah Revolutionary Council. During the meeting they discussed the current developments on the Arab and the Palestinian arenas. The brother secretary general reiterated our countries' principles and constant stance alongside the issue of the Arab-Palestinian people and their just struggle in order to return home and to establish their independent state on their national homeland under the leadership of their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO. He also stressed the importance of reinforcing the national unity, being the essential condition in the confrontation of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught to which the Palestinian revolution is exposed.

The meeting was attended by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the political bureau and secretary of the

Central Council. The meeting was also attended by Brothers 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden, and Hikmat Dib, PLO representative in San'a'.

PLO's Khalil al-Hasan Arrives in Jidda

LD181946 Riyadh SPA in English 1902 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, Oct 18, SPA — Khalid al-Hasan, the political adviser of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO's Executive Committee, arrived here tonight from Kuwait for a visit to Saudi Arabia. Al-Hasan participated in an emergency meeting of Fatah's Central Committee held in Kuwait yesterday.

PLO, Soviet, SFRY Envoys Meet in Tunisia

LD191355 Kuwait KUNA in English 1046 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Tunisia, Oct 19 (KUNA) — The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) representative in Tunisia, Hakam Balawi, met Tuesday with Soviet and Yugoslav ambassadors to Tunisia, the Palestinian news agency (WAFA) said Wednesday. The talks focussed on the current Arab situation, Palestinian-Lebanese rapidly developing crisis, and attempts to split the PLO, WAFA added.

Earlier in the day Balawi met with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and discussed the Arab situation and the Palestinian cause. Klibi expressed appreciation with the PLO's leading role in efforts to maintain Arab solidarity, Balawi said.

Al-Wazir Inspects Forces, Makes Statement

NC192320 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] During an inspection tour of the Palestinian revolution positions, brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Palestinian revolution forces general command, met the officers and fighters of the Al-Karamah forces.

While reviewing the conditions under which the Palestinian revolution lives, due to the siege imposed by the Syrian forces, he told the fighters that the Syrian siege and military buildup are intended to control the PLO and transform it into a tool in the bargaining arena with the United States so as to serve narrow transient regional interests. Abu Jihad reassured them that the Palestinian revolution will resist this plan with all its might.

PLO Condemns Pretoria's 'Barbaric Crimes'

MB191400 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] The Palestine Liberation Organization has condemned Pretoria's barbaric crimes against frontline states and the oppressed people of South Africa, saying Zionist Israel practices the same tactics in the Middle East. In a statement issued in Harare today, the PLO reaffirms its full and unconditional support for the people of Mozambique and the struggling people of South Africa. It called upon the international community to stand firmly and act against these barbaric acts, and to provide full assistance and support to the frontline states and the African liberation movements in order to help them attain their national rights.

AS-SIYASAH Reports Upcoming Kuwait-Saudi Shuttle

GF171004 Doha QNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 17 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Oct (QNA) — It was reported here today that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign affairs minister, and information minister, and Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign affairs minister, will undertake a shuttle tour to Iraqi and Syrian capitals later in the week.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *As-Siyasah* quotes an authoritative source as saying that this tour — which is designed to eliminate the differences existing between the two countries — comes within the framework of the efforts undertaken by the GCC countries to clear up the Arab atmosphere prior to the convening of the next Arab summit in Riyadh. The source added that Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal will arrive in Kuwait during the next 2 days to meet with the Amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad; the heir apparent, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad in order to brief them on his latest visit to Algeria.

The source pointed out that the visit by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to Baghdad and Damascus was undertaken at the request of the GCC countries in order to establish new foundations for relations between Iraq and Syria. The source indicated that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and UAE Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Rashid 'Abdallah will undertake a new tour to Tehran and Baghdad in the coming 2 weeks in order to discuss ways to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

GULF AFFAIRS

Oman, PDRY Move To Normalize Relations

GF202000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Oct (WAKH) — It is expected that Oman and the PDRY will take positive forward steps regarding the normalization of relations between them when the delegations of the two countries meet in Kuwait on 27 October within the framework of the technical committee on borders under the supervision of the UAE and Kuwait.

Diplomatic sources affirmed to the WAKH correspondent in Abu Dhabi today that an official statement regarding the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY will be declared at the conclusion of the meetings of the technical committee on borders.

The same sources stated that a diplomatic representation between both countries will follow the restoration of relations between them, and they did not rule out an agreement between both countries to hold a bilateral summit under the supervision of the UAE and Kuwait.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Views Gulf Issues

PM201425 London Al-Hawadith in Arabic 21 Oct 83 p 24

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah by Raghidah Dirgham in New York — date not specified]

[Excerpts] *Al-Hawadith*: In the field of joint defense and security in the Gulf you have just begun joint military maneuvers by the GCC six member-states. My first question regarding this first experiment of its kind is will the maneuvers be held frequently, that is, will they be annual or twice yearly for example? The second question is regarding cooperation in the field of defense and how you will consolidate and develop such cooperation?

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak: The GCC defense ministers have met and charged several committees with studying the best means to lay down a joint defense plan for the countries of the area. This requires many studies and many joint practical steps before it is put into effect. Joint defense is not an easy matter. The Arab World went through this experience when it established the Arab League. In other words, laying down principles is easy, but things become difficult when it comes to implementation. We are entering this experiment with a spirit of confidence, with hope, and with belief in a common destiny; in other words, the defense of this area can be achieved only through the joint action that is also the action of every state of the area.

Al-Hawadith: The Iraq-Iran war has taken a serious turn, particularly since the reported delivery of five French planes to Iraq, and the threats by Iran to close the Strait of Hormuz. How serious are these threats?

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak: We take the current war seriously. Thousands of people are being killed daily and millions of dollars are being spent on arms. We believe that this war is destroying both sides and that the area is witnessing a period of escalation in this war. When war goes on — today it could be aircraft and tomorrow something else — the escalation continues. We are seeking to stop this war and any threats made we take them seriously. We hope that events will not become exacerbated to that extent because otherwise the area will plunge into a new whirlpool; there will be further developments and interventions. The closing of the Strait of Hormuz will not harm the Gulf countries alone, but the whole world.

Second, any closure or interference in shipping would be a blatant violation of maritime law and all international customs. This is an international problem that we hope will not take a turn for the worse.

Al-Hawadith: Does Iran still interfere in Bahrain's affairs?

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak: In fact, 2 years ago there was clear interference, but we hope that such things have ended. We also hope that Iran, particularly in its media policy, will change its attitude toward the countries of the region and will show a better spirit of coexistence than it shows now.

For our part, we believe that in light of the fact that Iran is a Muslim neighboring state we should do all we can to normalize things between us as well as between it and Iraq. We are neighbors in a small part of the world and so we must devote our efforts and capabilities to development and overcoming our problems.

Al-Hawadith: It is being said that Syria is likely to decide to reopen the Iraqi oil pipeline that passes through its territory. What do you know about this subject, and is this true or a rumor?

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak: We believe that we will be happy, indeed very happy, if we hear that the Iraqi oil pipeline has been reopened and oil is once again is flowing through it. Oil is a major source of livelihood for Iraq. We are doing everything we can so that this will happen. We are even trying to do more than that; we are seeking to restore fraternal relations between Iraq and Syria, and are trying to make the two countries overcome their disputes that cause harm to both countries and to the Arab cause as a whole. The GCC is doing all it can in order to end Arab differences, particularly the Iraqi-Syrian dispute. The question of the passage of oil is part of the basic problem, which is the restoration of confidence between the two countries.

OMAN

Relations With PDRY Subject of Interview

GF201056 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0958 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Muscat, 20 Oct (WAKH) — An official at the Omani Foreign Ministry has announced that relations between Muscat and Aden have continued to improve and that the establishment of diplomatic relations between both countries will be declared

on 27 October. He added that the border committee will meet on 29 of this month.

Mr Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battash, Omani Foreign Ministry under secretary, stressed in a statement published in *'Uman* today that the Sultanate of Oman distinguishes between solving the border problems and the issue of establishing diplomatic relations because there are many countries who are linked through diplomatic relations even though they still have border problems.

Answering a question on expectations if Iran were to carry out its threats and close the Strait of Hormuz, Mr Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battash said this matter will be of utmost concern to the GCC states, and also to the countries that benefit from navigation through the strait. The Omani Foreign Ministry under secretary indicated that the GCC states will coordinate among themselves if such a thing were to happen.

He affirmed his country's declared stand on the necessity of resolving the Iraqi-Iranian conflict peacefully and on stopping the war. He said that the GCC has made enormous efforts in this regard, but no positive results have been achieved yet due to the Iranian stand. He also stressed the necessity of restoring Arab solidarity and restoring the ties between Egypt and the Arab countries. He noted that contacts between Egypt and several Arab states have taken place lately.

UAE

Heir Apparent Views GCC Maneuvers, Gulf War

GF201043 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Muscat, 20 Oct (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, has announced that the formation of the GCC Rapid Deployment Forces is the first step within a comprehensive strategy aimed at achieving a Gulf military unity that is capable of deterring any interventions or threats to any of the GCC member-states, and is capable of protecting the Gulf's security and defending its Arab and Islamic identity.

In a statement made to the newspaper *'Uman*, published in Muscat today, he stressed that the "Peninsula Shield" maneuvers were a great accomplishment that witnessed the birth of the GCC rapid deployment forces. He also stressed that the formation of this force confirms the joint destiny (?of the region) and declares that any foreign intervention in the affairs of defense or security in the region will not be allowed under any pretext.

The Abu Dhabi heir apparent said that a supreme military committee comprised of representatives from the forces of the six countries that took part in the al-Jazirah Shield maneuvers is currently making a comprehensive study of the four stages of the maneuvers with the aim of fully reassessing the lessons derived from them. He added that the conclusions the committee will reach will be submitted to the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council in Doha so that the strategic bases to achieve Gulf security in the upcoming stage can be established.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid stressed his country's readiness to continue efforts and mediations between the leaders of Iraq and Iran in order to find the means to put an end to this war and persuade both parties to settle their disputes through negotiations so as to reach a solution that secures the rights of both sides in accordance with the principles of good-neighborliness and nonintervention in internal affairs.

He added that the recent tour made by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, during which he visited Iraq and Syria, was aimed at bolstering joint Arab action in order to achieve the supreme Arab interest. He expressed hope that the results of this tour will appear as soon as possible because time is not at our side and because the Israeli enemy is lurking for the Arab nation and is benefitting from this perdition.

Concerning Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid said that closing the Strait is unacceptable because this would affect the countries overlooking the Gulf coast, including Iran itself.

His Highness praised the achievements made by the GCC since its establishment and said these accomplishments represent wide strides toward achieving the goals of the peoples of the Gulf.

YAR

Chief of General Staff Departs for Libya

GF210444 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of the General Staff and member of the Standing Committee, left San'a' for Tripoli yesterday, leading a delegation on a visit to Libya that will last for several days.

In a statement to SABA' news agency, Al-Bashiri said he is carrying a written message from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan First September Revolution, dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries and Arab and international issues of common interest.

Further Reportage on Romanian Delegation Visit

Mubarak, Ceausescu Dinner Speeches

NC192210 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 19 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this evening held a dinner banquet in the Republican Palace in 'Abidin in honor of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, his wife, and the delegation accompanying him.

President Mubarak delivered a speech at the banquet in which he welcomed President Ceausescu and his delegation and lauded the strong friendship and the close ties which exist between the two countries. The text of the speech follows:

Dear friend, President Nicolae Ceausescu, Mrs Ceausescu, dear friends:

I am extremely happy to welcome you in Egypt as a dear friend and a leader of a great people with which we are linked by ties of friendship and close relations — the noble Romanian people who are known for their contribution to human civilization and who represent a conscious link and a bridge of understanding and interaction among nations and peoples.

The relations between the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt and your friendly people in the Socialist Republic of Romania have developed and have become an example for constructive understanding and [word indistinct] cooperation, and [word indistinct] dialogue which is sought by the peoples in order to reach joint aims that serve the causes of peace and the promotion of relations among nations.

The relations between our two countries go back many years. Each side was keen to constantly learn the concerns, (?problems), and ambitions of the other. The scope of cooperation between us expanded in the field of constructive economic and technical cooperation and cultural exchange. The Egyptian people have constantly followed up the Romanian people's [word indistinct] march and the tangible successes they achieved under your wise leadership over the past years. This is in addition to Romania's contribution, under your wise leadership, in playing an effective role in the efforts to solve the international problems and the issues pertaining to peace, as well as the active role it has played and is playing in supporting the common objectives of the nations and the [word indistinct] causes of the peoples.

We in Egypt, Dear Friend, appreciate your constructive efforts and your consistent endeavors to achieve permanent and just peace in this part of the world. We appreciate your sincere initiative and your novel ideas for the achievement of stability and peace in the Middle East. This stemmed from your penetrating vision and your understanding of the fact that world peace is indivisible, and that the security of our region, which lies in the heart of the world and constitutes the meeting point of three continents, is an extension of European security [words indistinct], making peace and security in the Mediterranean a close link between the security of the southern and eastern Middle East and the northern and (?western) Europe. We are concerned by the situation which is still tense in this area and which could have serious repercussions threatening the peace process in which, as you know dear friend, Egypt has exerted its utmost efforts [words indistinct] firm determination.

The peace which we have sought and for which we have worked [words indistinct] under continued Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the continuing policy of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Therefore, it is necessary to correct the course of the situation on the basis of respect for the legitimate rights of all the parties and of adherence to the rules of international law. For this reason, we call for expediting the withdrawal from Lebanon and for respecting its people's sovereignty over their territory so that they will be able to embark on the reconstruction process following the tragic events they have experienced in recent years — events which have threatened Lebanon's stability and its people's security and which is almost threatening Lebanon's entity and territory integrity.

Meanwhile, we look forward to the resumption of the efforts for the settlement of the Palestinian issue because a just and lasting peace will not be achieved and real stability will not be established unless the Palestinian people attain their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their national entity on their soil. The Egyptian people, who have always supported the Palestinian cause, will not abandon it under any circumstances.

Friend, you also agree with us on the need for putting an end to the Iran-Iraq war which is not in the interest of either people and which harms the common aims of the peoples of the area, particularly the establishment of political and economic stability and the dedication of efforts for the attainment of comprehensive development — the real guarantee for protecting the area from the dangers of internal unrest and foreign intervention. Perhaps you also share our view that all the peace-loving forces throughout the world should play an effective and influencial part in ending this war, for which there is no justification because the squandering of the two people's capabilities and resources will [word indistinct] mankind [words indistinct] colossal capabilities for which it is in dire need as crises intensify and the challenges and dangers increase.

I add also that our brothers in the southern part of the African Continent are heroically and valiantly confronting the treacherous racist forces and their wrong practices which the international community has unanimously denounced and called for putting an end to. The racist minority is violating the rights of the majority which own the land and which has the right; and the minority is continuing its aggression against the struggling people of Namibia, standing against their independence thus defying the logic of the (?age) and disregarding the lesson of history.

We are aware that you share our interest in the need for ending these imperialist methods which humanity has transcended with the logic of the inevitable victory of the forces of liberation, progress, and independence.

Dear Friend, we have always been eager, particularly in recent years, for the dialogue between our two countries to expand and for there to be numerous opportunities to present our views. My meetings with you in the past 2 years confirmed this tradition

which we share during this important period in which events develop that require constant review and new ideas. The exchange of delegations between the two countries on various levels and all domains also confirmed the importance of economic, technical, cultural, and informational cooperation between two countries which have a high degree of mutual understanding on regional and international issues.

We also view with satisfaction the development of the relations between our two countries and our mutual hope for constant increase in the volume of trade between them which is expected to amount to $1 billion in 1985.

You perhaps share our view that the economic, technical, cultural and educational cooperation among states [as received] represents a bridge between two friendly peoples and a vital interaction between two cultures.

Therefore, friend, I truly see that the ties between the Egyptian and Romanian people represent an excellent pattern of the relations among states [words indistinct]. We proceed together toward more creative cooperation that will put us on common grounds seeking to diminish the acuteness of international tension, to oppose the arms race, and to oppose the stockpiling of conventional and nuclear weapons that threatens world peace and mankind's security. Together, we also look forward to a future in which the peoples' right to self-determination will be achieved and in which the nations' sovereignty will be attained without any foreign intervention or resort to force in the affairs of others.

On this occasion, I emphasize to you that the Egyptian people and their leadership are eager to maintain good relations and constructive friendship with the great Romanian people. We are eager to develop and enhance these relations, to dedicate our joint efforts to serving the cause of just peace, and to cling to all mankind's hope of an era of liberation from poverty and backwardness for hundreds of millions of people.

Friends, permit me to ask you to stand to salute President Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife, as well as all the dear guests of Egypt present, and the friendship between the people of the Socialist Republic of Romania and the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

[Passage indistinct covering opening portion of Ceausescu reply speech] The Romanian president said: During our visit and during our talks which will take place in the next few days, we shall undoubtedly find new ways and means to develop Egyptian-Romanian relations in economic, technical, scientific, and cultural fields. We shall also find new ways to deepen cooperation in the fields of international politics.

He pointed out that new points of tension have cropped up lately in international life, primarily the arms race and especially the nuclear arms race. He pointed out the need for ending this arms race and the need for disarmament to ensure world peace and understanding.

He said that life has proven that there is only one way to solve all problems and disputes among peoples,through peaceful negotiations. Irrespective of how difficult negotiations may be, they are more acceptable than war.

President Ceausescu said that in the present circumstances, if we take into consideration the international situation and take a look at the tense situation in the Middle East, we can better appreciate the importance of the efforts which Egypt has exerted to establish peace. Therefore, it is necessary to intensify efforts to stop all military actions and solve all problems through negotiations.

We think that intensive efforts must be made for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East, based on Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied since 1967, and solving the Palestinian people's problem on the basis of respecting their right to self-determination and their right to establish an independent state.

The Romanian president explained in his speech that Romania thinks that convening an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the PLO as a sole representative of the Palestinian people, could open the way to negotiations to reach a solution to the Middle East and Palestinian issues.

He said that Romania requests [tatlubu] an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. At the same time, the necessary measures must take place for a cease-fire in Lebanon. All the Lebanese political forces must express their readiness to reach an understanding to ensure Lebanon's independence and national sovereignty.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, the Romanian president said that this war must stop, the armies must withdraw to their international boundaries, and the two countries must begin negotiations.

The Romanian president affirmed that the European states are interested in a solution to the Middle East issues through negotiations so that stability and permanent peace can prevail in the area. He said that meanwhile, a very serious situation has emerged in Europe, where there is continued introduction of modern weapons into the European Continent.

He added that within this context, a new event is taking place. It is the process of introducing medium-range missiles which sabotage the peace process and cause tension in the political situation not only in the European Continent but in the whole world also.

The Romanian President said in his speech that we want to say to the European people and to the peoples of the whole world that the increase in nuclear missiles will lead to the outbreak of a nuclear war, and this means the destruction of life and human existence.

We think that the European peoples as well as the peoples of the Middle East and the other areas of the world must devote all their efforts to stop these actions which will lead to a nuclear catastrophy and to build a world in which we will guarantee [word indistinct] the right of existence to all [word indistinct], independence, sovereignty, and peace.

He added that Romania has always supported the struggle of

peoples against imperialism. We extend full assistance to the peole of Namibia and to SWAPO to achieve their independence. We are also against the policy pursued by South Africa and against everything that deprives the other peoples of the African Continent of independence. In these circumstances [words indistinct] the African peoples to unite their ranks and find the suitable ways to solve all their problems between themselves.

President Ceausescu said that Romania cooperates with all developing countries, and sees the need to strengthen and build equitable relations, a new world economic order, and sees the need for the peoples to obtain modern technology.

If we take into consideration the problems that exist in our world, all the peoples must participate in solving these problems, irrespective of their size.

The (?United Nations) and the other international organizations must play a more active role in solving these problems. Despite the difficulty of these problems, we are convinced that the peoples can strengthen their cooperation to stop the slide toward disaster and to achieve peace in the whole world.

The Romanian president said in his speech: Brother President Mubarak, ladies, and gentlemen: I would like to laud the good close relationship which exists between us and our active economic cooperation and development in bilateral relations and in international forums.

Hence I can say that the friendship between our two peoples was built and strengthened during the process of a struggle for peace. Therefore, we must strengthen and deepen the relations of cooperation between us to solve all issues, not only bilateral ones, but other issues, such as Middle Eastern and European issues, in order to achieve a just peace and social justice.

Mubarak-Ceausescu Talks Begin

NC201104 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA) — Talks between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu started at the Al-Qubbah Republican Palace at 1000 today.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian and Romanian delegations held a meeting which was attended on the Egyptian side by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation; Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade; Muhammad as-Sayyid al-Gharuri, minister of industry and mineral resources; 'Izz ad-Din Mukhtar, chief chamberlain at the presidency; Muhammad Wafiq Husayn, Egyptian ambassador in Romania; and Muhammad Sa'id as-Sayyid, director of the Foreign Ministry's East Europe Department.

The meeting was attended on the Romanian side by First Deputy Prime Minister Gheorghe Oprea, who is head of the Romanian side to the economic and technical cooperation committee; presidential adviser Constantin Mitea; Adrian Stoica, deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; Marcel Dinu, director in the Foreign Ministry; and Romanian Ambassador in Cairo Ion Iosefide.

At 1015 the members of the two delegations joined the meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Ceausescu.

Following the 2-hour talks, President Mubarak said that his talks with the Romanian president centered on the Palestinian issue, the Lebanese issue, and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. He said: The Romanian president and I believe that the Palestinian issue is basic. The Romanian president spoke with me during the meeting about an international conference [on the Middle East]. I believe that this conference should be held at a later stage after conditions are settled in the area and progress is achieved.

President Mubarak said that the Romanian president briefed him on the outcome of his talks with U.S. Vice President George Bush and with Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman.

President Mubarak said that President Ceausescu had explained that there is hope now of an agreement being reached between the Palestinians and the Jordanians. He said: I do hope so, so they will be able to start talks for resolving the crisis before it is a dead issue.

'Ali Confers With Counterpart

NC201523 Cairo MENA in English 1520 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct. 20 (MENA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali conferred here today with Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei on political issues of joint interest, particularly the Mideast situation, the Lebanese cause, and the Palestinian question. They have also discussed the African issues, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and means of fostering bilateral relations. Cooperation between the two countries, particularly means of activating technological, technical, economic and trade cooperation between the two countries were also discussed. The meeting took place after the session of talks that was held today at the Republican Palace between the Romanian and Egyptian sides.

As-Sa'id on Economic Talks

NC201703 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] A session of economic talks was held between the Egyptian and Romanian sides this afternoon in the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah following the session of Egyptian-Romanian discussions. The session was attended on the Egyptian side by Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation; Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade; and Muhammad as-Sayyid al-Gharuri, minister of industry and mineral resources. Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id told newsmen that the conferees dealt with the various aspects of economic cooperation between the two countries in the domains of foreigntrade, joint projects, or projects which the Romanian side is implementing in Egypt.

Ceausescu Receives Muhyi ad-Din
NC201730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu received Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din this evening in Al-Qubbah palace where he is staying.

Ceausescu Receives Sayyid Zaki
NC201729 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu received this evening Sayyid Zaki, People's Assembly deputy speaker and head of the Romanian-Egyptian Friendship Society at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah where he is staying.

Presidents Hold Further Talks
NC201731 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu held a new round of talks this afternoon. During their second session of talks the two presidents will complete discussing the topics they discussed at their first session of talks this morning.

Ceausescu Tours Aswan
NC210828 Cairo MENA in English 0820 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 21 (MENA) — President Nicolai Ceausescu of Romania and Mrs Ceausescu left here this morning for Aswan on a few hours' visit, during which they will be touring the High Dam and other tourist areas in the city. President Ceausescu is accompanied by a mission of honour led by Minister of Industry Muhammad al-Gharuri.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Talks
NC200659 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA) — *Al-Jumhuriyah* stresses that the talks being conducted between President Husni Mubarak and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, who is presently visiting Egypt, acquires particular importance under the conditions of tension and escalation in the Middle East.

In Friday's edition, *Al-Jumhuriyah* points out that the Romanian president is not an outsider to the development of conflict in the area, given the fact that he plays a direct role in many of these developments. He probably is one of the few leaders in the world who keeps cordial and strong relations with the various parties to the conflict, particularly the Palestinians and the Israelis.

It is against this background, the paper said, that President Mubarak was careful to emphasize to President Ceausescu that Egypt is concerned about the Palestinian people and will not let them down under any circumstances. President Mubarak made it clear that genuine stability in the area will not come until the Palestinian people attain the right to self-determination and to establishing its national entity on its soil.

The newspaper explained that the fact that President Ceausescu is in Egypt, and listens directly to the Egyptian viewpoint, raises hope that this view will reach various ears to make them comprehend that there is no hope for any settlement that does not take into consideration the interests and national rights of the Palestinians.

Romania's Andrei, Lebanese Envoy Confer in Cairo
NC201522 Cairo MENA in English 1520 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct.20 (MENA) — Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei conferred here today with Lebanese presidential envoy to Egypt Sami Marun, who arrived here on Tuesday on a 3-day visit to Egypt. Stefan Andrei is accompanying Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in his current visit to Egypt.

Muhyi ad-Din Views Domestic, Foreign Issues
PM201208 Cairo May in Arabic 17 Oct 83 pp 3,4

[Interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din by Sabri Abu al-Majd in Cairo — date not specified]

[Excerpts] *Question:* In his first speech to the people through the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council, President Husni Mubarak put great emphasis on combating corruption and the corrupters. Nobody will be immune to the state's sharp sword, which does not distinguish between strong and weak, rich and poor. From the beginning President Mubarak's rule has been distinguished by determined and firm actions to wipe out corruption. How would you describe this distinguishing mark of the rule in the past 2 years?

Answer: There is no doubt that the whole population senses this distinguishing mark in methods of rule. The people are aware that serious efforts are being made to wipe out corruption but, of course, this cannot be done overnight and in a short time. Wiping out corruption cannot be achieved only by meting out punishment to the corrupt and the corrupters; it also requires education in school and university and in job locations as well as through the media.

Question: Whatis strange is that some people take combating corruption as an excuse to attack the government, while in fact such action should be regarded as a credit to the government rather than a weakness.

Answer: You are right in this remark. We do not bury our heads in the sand. On the contrary we tell the whole world there is corruption; there is corruption in the East as well as in the West. In the East we have heard of factories built on paper and those responsible taken to court, and in the West we have heard about many leaders convicted for corruption and imprisoned. Corruption is everywhere, but what matters is that officials should stop at nothing in combating it, and those responsible for corruption, whatever their position may be, should be punished.

Question: Some people wrongly believe that combating corrup-

tion adversely affects tourism and foreign capital investments in the country, while the right thing is that combating corruption and the corrupters should double the number of tourists and capital invested in Egypt.

Answer: That is right. When we were combating corruption in the past 2 years we did not intend to create alarm that would make some people afraid of work. Some people tried to exploit our combating of corruption to scare some of those working in the country or investing capital in it. The government believed and still believes that its combating of corruption is aimed at the corrupt and the corrupters alone. In the meantime the government encourages citizens to work for the benefit of society so that a productive society will be created whose ultimate aim is to serve the masses.

Question: Another disinguishing mark of the past 2 years has been the recourse to planning after we had spent 35 years in continous wars and had abandoned planning. May I ask the prime minister about the policy pursued in the past 2 years in this important field?

Answer: True, this is still another distinguishing mark of the government in the past 2 years. We have begun relying on planning and have laid down a plan and have began implementing it in a scientific manner. It is known that in the past we did not rely on planning. Only once in the sixties did we lay down a plan. We followed it only for 3 years and never completed it. There were several incomplete attempts at planning. In the past 2 years we have actually laid down a plan and began implementing it. The first year of the plan has been completed and all the goals have been achieved. Our serious commitment to the plan means that this society desires development and self-building. Our 5-year plan is for both the public sector and the private sector. In the plan the private sector has an opportunity of 8 billion pounds over 5 years. This sector represents 24.6 percent of total investments.

In other words the private sector has a great scope to act, to be inventive, to renovate, and to distinguish itself in cooperation and coordination with the public sector, which totals 35 billion pounds.

This combination and cooperation between the public and private sectors is desirable in order to reach a level of development of 8.1 percent annually over 5 years. The first year we have achieved 96 percent of the plan's goals, which is a very high figure if compared with goals of similar plans. We have achieved 6.7 percent in the first year, which is a high and honorable level for all sectors.

In the field of construction, for example, we have in the first year achieved a rate of development of 11 percent, which means that we have made a good beginning and completed scores of projects. We have today, for example, some 3,200 projects that are actually being implemented, and about 85 percent of the investment in projects has actually been made. We are also renovating some old projects so they will give a quicker return.

Question: The wise policy which President Husni Mubarak has been pursuing since the people chose him as leader has had a great effect in clearing the atmosphere of Egypt's Arab relations. A directive to stop all campaigns between us and the Arab brothers was one of the first actions that contributed to creating an Egyptian-Arab rapprochement. Would you like to give us your views on this wise policy?

Answer: There is no doubt that another distinguishing mark of the rule in the past 2 years has been the projection of Egypt's Arab face; it has involved projecting a reality, not creating something that did not exist before. Egypt is Arab in history, origin, language, and religion. This is an established and incontrovertible fact. But our relations with the Arab nation sometimes reach a peak while at other times, for well-known historical reasons, they sink to lower levels. What is new about this phase in my view is the language of dialogue and refraining from becoming involved in side battles. We do not even answer those who attack us.

What is strange is that some of those who attack us do not stop doing so while they are conducting a dialogue with us. But in both cases we absolutely refrain from attack. We are always anxious to talk to whoever wants to talk to us, and just as President Mubarak directed us, we refrain from attacking anybody. We respond to whoever wants to have a dialogue with us in accordance with this philosophy. Our relationship with the Arab brothers is based on this principle. In the meantime we preserve Egypt's dignity. It is clear and evident that the language of dialogue has achieved rapprochement in Egyptian-Arab relations. There is a new development: Meetings and visits, which cannot be listed here, have taken place. Meetings have taken place in the international arena. There has been cooperation between us and our Arab brothers from which there have been clear results. Egypt has been elected in several international arenas by representatives of Arab countries which used to attack us strongly. We do not buy this support, but the new language of dialogue has compelled the Arab countries' representatives to listen and to heed.

The interview with Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, prime minister and general secretary of the National Democratic Party [NDP], then moved from the field of foreign policy to that of nonalignment.

On this subject Dr Muhyi ad-Din said: One of the most significant points and a source of added impetus in the field of foreign policy has been the clarification of Egypt's position in the field of nonalignment, which means that we have not abandoned nonalignment. In fact, in the past 2 years we have clarified even further our position as one of the founders of the movement. It is a known fact that the movement has become split into three groups: one pro-Eastern, one pro-Western, and one perplexed between the two. This was the state of affairs in the recent past, but then tension eased at the New Delhi summit. President Mubarak and some nonaligned leaders made efforts to bring the three groups together. Some positive results were achieved as a result of the efforts by the founding countries — Egypt, India, and Yugoslavia — to bring the groups together.

The talk then moved on to discuss relations between Egypt and Israel, in which the situation has become quite acute. Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said:

With regard to the situation with Israel, there are problems between us; some are acute and other are not. The acute problems need urgent attention. One example is Lebanon. After Israel invaded Lebanon, we condemned this aggression and called on Israel to withdraw but it did not. They decided to conclude an agreement between them and Lebanon but, as is known, the agreement has been frozen. We called for a timetable for withdrawal but no such timetable was drawn up. The Israeli forces have pulled back to the Al-Awwali river, but this situation is quite contrary to our demand for the Israeli forces to be withdrawn from Lebanon. These forces have even built defensive lines and fortifications, and, moreover, one of the Israeli parties is calling for building a settlement in southern Lebanon. This is a serious matter.

Another acute problem, which is not a new one, is the question of building settlements in the West Bank and Gaza despite the well-known fact that U.S. public opinion and world opinion condemn the building of settlements, which now total 150 in the West Bank and Gaza, all of which has led to the emigration of many world Jews to these settlements and to the eviction of the West Bank people. The building of settlements must stop at a certain limit. In his government political program the new prime minister, Shamir, who has been in office only a few days, stresses the need to build settlements.

The third problem is that of Tabah. There were talks about it for some time but then they stopped. The talks were resumed and these dealt with the venue. They suggested Jerusalem as the venue for talks, but we refused and we stopped at this point. The question of Tabah must once again be discussed because we consider it one of the vital issues in our relations with Israel. Tabah will once again become Egyptian land and it will inevitably be returned to the mother country because it is part of Egypt. Egypt cannot but cling to every speck of sand in it. The question of Tabah is not a matter of 1,000 square meters but a question for all the Egyptian people.

There are many other problems, such as the (Canada) camp [as published], trade, and many other issues in relations with Israel which must be resolved. Resolving all the problems that I have mentioned is not only for the sake of Egypt alone but for the sake of the problem of Lebanon and the Palestine problem.

The situation with Israel can be summed up in the points I have just mentioned, and we are still discussing the matter with the U.S. side; dialogue is still open and continuing.

I had inevitably to raise with the prime minister the question of returning the Egyptian ambassador [to Israel], particularly since a large number of U.S. senators have asked for this return. I told the prime minister: They should ask Israel to withdraw from Lebanon before asking for the return of the Egyptian ambassador, particularly since there is nothing in the Camp David agreement or the peace treaty that stipulates that diplomatic relations between the two countries should continue.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din said: This is true and natural. There is no provision for maintaining an ambassador in the capital of the other state. We withdrew our ambassador following the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and made his return dependent on withdrawal from Lebanon. This is a firm decision. It was Israel that pushed us toward withdrawing our ambassador from Tel Aviv. Israel must change its style in dealing with others and establish humanitarian relations with the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza. It is absolutely illogical that the Palestinian people should be treated in this way. All this has been discussed in the talks. As for those who demand the return of the ambassador, they ought to call on the Israeli side to change its attitude toward Lebanon and on the question of settlements and Tabah. The Camp David agreements and the peace treaty do not shackle the Egyptian will. The Egyptian will is free to make its own decisions in all the Arab area, the area of nonalignment, and the area of relations with the Israelis. This is quite clear. Egypt has always been the master of its sovereign decision-making.

'Ali on Mideast, United States, USSR

DW191143 Bonn Die Welt in German 15-16 OCT 83 P 6

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by correspondent Juergen Liminski in Cairo: date not given]

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali believes that the Soviet Union will inevitably have to be involved in a final resolution of the Middle East conflict. For the time being, however,[he said] we should try to exclude Moscow from the negotiating process and, include it later on in "the final phase."

In a conversation with *Die Welt* the minister said that he fears that by suppling SS-21 missiles to Syria, Moscow "will permit Damascus to gain a firm position through military support and thus gain participation in a general solution. That would also lead to Soviet participation." Through the supply of SS-21 missiles we can see "more clearly" the determination with which the Soviet Union is supporting Syria. Hasan 'Ali, who as chief of the military intelligence service in 1977 played a considerable role in bringing about the Camp David treaty, considers it desirable to exclude the Soviet Union for as long possible.

"It is easier to achieve an agreement if the Americans alone play the role of mediator. We have had experience with both world powers. First in September 1977 with the Geneva Middle East conference which led to nothing, and then in 1977, with the Camp David process in which the Americans alone were mediating and participating. There are many places where the peace process could begin. Hasan 'Ali names Camp David and the Reagan plan. In the beginning only the states involved should participate. He says, "when the initial problems have been solved," Moscow should be also asked to join in because "a Soviet guarantee will be necessary in the final phase."

This could be finalized at a large-scale conference. He says there already is a framework for such participation by the Soviets. Hasan 'Ali cites the 1 October 1977 joint statement by both superpowers. If the peace process were to develop far enough for the Soviets to be asked to give a guarantee in line with this statenment, Moscow would hardly have any other choice, Hasan 'Ali says. Otherwise it would have to contradict itself. Moscow has indeed never lost sight of returning to this statement in which the superpowers define the Middle East as an area of "mutual political interest." Therefore, Moscow continously condemns the

Camp David process because it excludes the Soviet Union as a result of the initiatives of Israeli Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian President as-Sadat. However, Hasan 'Ali doesnt want his views to be understood as a turning away from the spirit of Camp David. Maybe he links them, without saying so directly, with the hope that the stalled Middle East negotiations will get going again.

According to the minister there is no schedule for a normalization of relations between Cairo and Moscow. However, economic as well as cultural relations are being strengthened, 'Ali says.

Hasan 'Ali says the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel is dependent on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon. The declaration of intent contained in the Lebanese- Israeli agreement isn't enough, he says. An exact time schedule must be established in coordination with the buildup of the Lebanese Army which is supposed to move into the area to be vacated by the Israelis. In 'Ali's view, two brigades would be enough. The Syrians would also have to leave Lebanon, but "Israel must go first," he says. Kamal Hasan 'Ali doesn't consider this to be unrealistic.

Despite the bad experience and events of the past months which point to the contrary, he still hasn't given up hope that Saudi Arabia, the Arab League, and the United States could get Syria to withdraw from Lebanon. This view corresponds to that of the Saudis who have often tried this, but in vain, he says. However, he apparently no longer agrees with Washington that further withdrawal by Israel is harmful and not in the interests of the West.

Hasan 'Ali defines the current Egyptian approach to the Lebanon crisis as having four aspects: Preserving and ensuring the cease- fire; attempting to find a reconciliation; supporting the legal central power; withdrawing all foreign troops. The minister called the PLO's situation most critical. If it were to fall completely under the control of Syria, which current developments point to, the PLO would become an instrument of one individual Arab state and would be unable to make its own decisions. Thus, it would lose its legitimate right to speak for all Palestinians.

The foreign minister considers the situation in the Gulf to be less critical following the delivery of five French Super Etendard fighter aircraft (denied by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn). He says this has stabilized the military balance. We can hope now that Iran will be prepared to accept a cease-fire which will "pave the way for negotiations on the free passage of oil exports through the Strait of Hormuz as envisaged by the UN Security Council," he states.

The visit of Chancellor Kohl improved "bilateral relations in the sense of greater mutual understanding," 'Ali says. He now places great expectations on German investments in Egypt. They would find "good prerequisites because of the growing political and economic stability in this country," he says. Egypt's significance in the Arab world is "uncurtailed" (despite Camp David) and "we have never felt we were isolated," 'Ali adds. Three million Egyptians work in other Arab countries, economic relations have never been disrupted, and some 80,000 professors and teachers are teaching in Arab universities and schools. "What could the Arab League do without Egypt, and what could Egypt do without the Arab League?" the minister asks.

Butrus Ghali on European Role in Mideast

PM190858 Copenhagen Berlingske Tidende in Danish 8 Oct 83 p 4

[Steffen Jensen and Jorgen Siegumfeldt report: "Wish for Greater European Efforts"]

[Excerpt] Egypt wants Europe to play a more active role in the attempts to solve the Middle East crisis — especially in the next 18 months when U.S. political involvement must be expected to be limited because of the U.S. election campaign. This was Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali's message to Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen at a meeting they had yesterday. Butrus Ghali is currently paying an official visit to Denmark.

The Egyptian minister said that the EEC had been considerably more active in the Middle East during Denmark's chairmanship. He said that the fact that the EEC chairmanship changes every 6 months could be a problem. It destroys continuity.

The Egyptian minister suggested that the EEC appoint a "Mr Europe," who could busy himself with the Middle East on a more permanent basis. The minister said that European views have considerable influence on attitudes in both Israel and the United States.

"Some 6 years after President as-Sadat's peace initiative we are back where we started," the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs said at a press conference. "Israel's invasion of Lebanon, the bombardment of Beirut and the massacre of Palestinian refugees were major blows to the peace process, which is making no progress at present.

"Europe also has good relations with Israel, and in this way the EEC could also make its influence felt," Butrus Ghali said.

The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs was unwilling to say anything concrete about Egypt's possible response to a proper European Middle East initiative — a followup to the Venice declaration. But he said that a European initiative should not be in competition with the U.S. initiatives.

Egypt is more interested in Europe's playing an active role. "That is why we also supported the multinational peacekeeping force — with its European involvement — in the Sinai desert at the time of the Israeli withdrawal from the area. The same is true of the Multinational Force in Lebanon," Butrus Ghali said.

He said that Europe could make its influence especially felt on questions to do with human rights on the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Egypt is pessimistic about the Gulf war, the Egyptian minister said. "We made an attempt at the meeting of the nonaligned states in New Delhi, but it was fruitless. Neither of the parties is interested in negotiating, and so we must assume the war will

continue. On the other hand I do not believe that Iran would really close the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf. Iran would lose just as much as Iraq."

Government Condemns S. African 'Aggression'
NC191714 Cairo MENA in English 1350 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 19 (MENA) — Egypt has condemned the treacherous aggression by the racist regime of South Africa against the people of Mozambique.

Egypt asserted anew that this racist regime was based on violence and the disregard of legitimacy as well as rejection of the United Nations principles and resolutions, and the ignorance of world opinion.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry stressed Egypt's full support for the people and government of Mozambique and urged the international community to confront this racist aggression.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, contacted the foreign minister of Mozambique to assert Egypt's solidarity with the people and government of Mozambique.

Lebanese Envoy Departs After Economic Talks
NC201610 Cairo MENA in English 1600 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 20 (MENA) — Sami Marun, Lebanese presidential envoy to Egypt, left here today for home winding up his three-day visit to Egypt during which he met with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, and Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id.

Marun said his talks in Egypt were positive and constructive and have mainly dealt with the economic and political situation in Lebanon and Egypt's help to Lebanon.

He said further the Egyptian officials have expressed readiness to buy Lebanon's agricultural and industrial products within the context of the trade agreement between the two countries.

A Lebanese high ranking delegation of the Ministries of Economy, Foreign Affairs and the Lebanese Council for Foreign Economic Relations will visit Egypt soon to sign a number of economic agreements, Marun said.

AL-AHRAM Commentary on Israeli 'Expansionist Lust'
PM191405 Cairo Al-Ahram in Arabic 17 Oct 83 p 5

[Muhammad 'Abd al-Mun'im analysis: "The Confused Peace With Israel; Will They Calm Their Fears or Destroy the Dreams of Generations?"]

[Excerpts] Just a few days before the final withdrawal from Sinai the Israelis threatened to stop the withdrawal "unless Cairo respects the letter and spirit of the Camp David agreements." The technical pretexts submitted by Israel were that Egypt had violated the military provisions of the Camp David agreements, in addition to other violations pertaining to the demarcation maps.

They were unfounded pretexts. The real reason was that Egypt did not change its position on the question of Palestinian rights and the "eternal" cause. It seems that this is what they meant by violation of the Camp David "spirit."

After the withdrawal the Israelis, instead of rejoicing at the creation of the first recognized Israeli border with the strongest and biggest Arab country, turned the occasion into a painful tragedy and a protest demonstration until the very last moment. Israeli bulldozers began burying the dreams in the desert when they destroyed the town of Yamit, uprooted trees from reclaimed land, and took out the airconditioning equipment and dismantled all installations which were supposed to be handed over intact to the Egyptians.

It was then that what might have been the first chapter in a historic regional reconciliation became a really bad beginning. From then on it developed into a state of alarm after the invasion of Lebanon and the Sabra and Shatila plot, followed by the sudden Israeli withdrawal from parts of Lebanon, paving the way for fighting between naive Arab sects thrilled out of their wits by the magic of the Kalashnikov.

Last week, on the 10th anniversary of the October 1973 war, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens visited the Negev region in what observers interpreted as a clear provocation and an indication of Israeli concern about the "cold war" with Egypt.

Many people may not be aware of the fact that, after the signing of the peace agreements with Egypt and to this day, two-thirds of the IDF are still deployed in that region, which is considered to be the traditional area of confrontation with Egypt and the springboard from which the Israeli army launched its repeated battles against the Egyptian forces.

In an interview with an American paper Arens once said that he had opposed withdrawal from Sinai for the following three reasons:

1. Israel should have been allowed to keep the two airbases it had built in Sinai.

2. The residents of Yamit settlement should not have been evicted from that settlement.

3. The Al-'Ulama oilfield should not have been handed over to Egypt.

These are the views of the new Israeli defense minister, who visited the Negev region on the October war anniversary. As regards the new prime minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, who is 69 years old, he too opposed the Camp David accords. He firmly believes in hardline policies toward the Arabs, especially the Palestinians.

Shamir belongs to the right wing. He condemns the Camp David agreements with Egypt, supports the policy of concentrated settlements in the occupied Arab territories. He supported the

Lebanon war and never criticized the excess that went with it, but strongly condemned the Kahane commission inquiry into the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

So this is the new situation in Israel following the departure of the three pillars of the peace process: As-Sadat, Carter, and Begin.

On the other side of the border President Husni Mubarak is now in power. He is a man who spent all his life engaged in wars or preparations for wars with Israel. He concluded his military life as a prominent commander in the October war. Like all professional military people who base their calculations on a realistic knowledge of all dimensions of war, [he believes] that war is the last key to a solution. That is why President Mubarak has frequently declared that as far as Egypt is concerned, peace is a firm strategy, not a temporary tactic. But he does not talk much; and because of his firm features and the fact that he has not visited Jerusalem, they are suspicious and they do not believe.

As regards Washington, the third party to the peace process, it is anxious to preserve and maintain the peace because that is very crucial for the future of peace in the region in general. It also wants to protect the reputation of and confidence in the United States which, on the adamant insistence of the late President Anwar as-Sadat, assumed the role of guarantor and partner of the Camp David process. However, what is wrong with the U.S. attitude is that it has traditionally taken Israel's side and tended to believe everything the Israelis said. This may be the result of the long-standing close and continuous relations between the two countries, unlike U.S. relations with other countries in the region, such as Iran for example. That is why Egypt's stability and the continuation of its present policy are very important to the United States, especially in relation to its role as partner in the peace process.

To sum it all up, Egypt and the United States are determined to preserve and maintain the peace process, whereas the third party, Israel, always seems, strangely enough, to be suspicious and apprehensive about peace. This may be due to the fact that, unlike other states, Israel was born by the force of arms.

The logic of force, on which Israel has always relied, may ultimately prove to be a suicidal one. That is why Israel's friends should save it from itself. Israel's endless bid to possess all kinds of sophisticated weapons has compelled the Arab world to seek the same conventional weapons. The two sides are engaged in an arms race which, Israel has known all along, will not end in Israel's favor simply because the Arabs have vast resources and wealth. That is why Israel, with its compulsive leaning toward extremist solutions — noticed by everyone throughout all phases of the Arab-Israeli conflict — has consistently been doing things which could ultimately lead to the last chapter of the regional tragedy, namely manufacture of nuclear weapons. To this day Israel is still refusing to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Even in that radical field, the Israelis know that the Arabs could one day have their own nuclear weapon. So, what good is this rabid race for either side? This race is the result of a false expansionist lust which swallows up the territories of others to ensure so-called strategic depth, despite the fact that the October war, which hit Israel like an earthquake, occurred at a time when the Israeli forces had that strategic depth in the heart of Sinai.

These are fears which the Israelis apparently cannot live without. If peace is to prevail in the region and if the current chain of events is to end, the Israelis must rid themselves of these inclinations and calm these fears instead of destroying the dreams of entire generations.

Briefs

Protocol With Ethiopia — Cairo, Oct 20 (MENA) — Egypt and Ethiopia signed a protocol for trade cooperation today whereby trade exchange between them will amount to $15 million with an increase of $11 million. Under the protocol, technical and scientific expertise will be exchanged. The protocol was signed by Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id and the Ethiopian trade minister currently visiting here. The protocol is considered an important step towards boosting Egyptian-Ethiopian relations after a five-year stalemate. Dr as-Sa'id added. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1725 GMT 20 Oct 83 NC]

Communique on 19-20 Oct War Operations
JN201750 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,254 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 20 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

But they wronged themselves therein. At length We made them as a tale that is told, and We dispersed them all in scattered fragments. [Koranic verse]

O proud Iraqis, O sons of our brave Armed Forces wherever you may be, O heroes in the I Army Corps sector: While you are fighting the suspect Khomeyniites, enemies of God and humanity, you are asserting your genuine adherence to our gracious principles as well as your high values and sublime honor. May God bless you and your brave stand against the covetous apostates in defense of great Iraq, its struggling people, and glorious revolution. O fighters in our bold Army, you are daily recording in your history, which is abounding with heroism and glories, new epics and feats which will be remembered by the coming generations with admiration, pride, and appreciation. With your splendid steadfastness and well-known strength you made and are making the rancorous enemies taste bitter defeats, agony, and humiliation. May God bless you, O fighters in the heroic I Army Corps and everywhere in the battlefronts, while you are confronting the lunatic Khomeyniites' vile aggression against our lofty Iraq. Blessed be your strong attacks by which you are making the enemy wallow in the swamp of defeat and humiliation.

In addition to what was announced in our Communique No 1,253 today on the enemy's treacherous offensive on the night of 19-20 October 1983 against the I Army Corps units — an offensive that was confronted valiantly and with high spirits and which was contained and completely foiled after most of the attacking force was wiped out and after the battlefield was filled with the enemy's dead troops and destroyed equipment and weapons — our brave forces are still engaged with the enemy units in violent battles in which all sorts of weapons are being used. Our forces are continuing to destroy the defeated enemy forces which desperately had the border village of Panjwin as their target. Our valiant units also continued their successful attacks on the enemy units in the same area, inflicting large losses in personnel, weapons, and vehicles. We will later furnish you with details of the progress of battles and the enemy losses, God willing.

Since early morning today, our bold fighter planes and helicopter gunships have been strongly pounding the enemy units and splendidly supporting our heroic ground units' brave confrontation of the enemy and its defeated remnants. All day long our aircraft continued their daring raids and strong, successful attacks on the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the battlefield and deep inside enemy territory in the same sector.

The brave pilots — valiant helicopter knights — concentrated their violent raids against the enemy weapons emplacements and both infantry and mechanized units in the area opposite our units in the Panjwin area, scoring direct and very effective hits. Heavy fires broke out, violent explosions were heard, and columns of smoke covered several enemy positions and weapons emplacements which were hit and destroyed. The enemy losses in men and equipment were very large. Our fighter planes and helicopter gunships imposed their full control over the entire battlefield throughout the period of their successful attacks on the enemy targets and units. All our fighter planes and helicopter gunships returned safely and successfully to base, praise be to God.

Our capable fighter planes today carried out 146 combat missions, and our bold helicopter gunships carried out 69 combat missions.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 October 1983

'Over 1,500' Iranians Killed
JN202132 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2112 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

We have received the following military spokesman's statement: Day after day the soldiers of justice and principles — sons of our proud people, the valiant fighters — are scoring great and splendid victories over the covetous Iranian enemy. One day after another, the charlatans ruling in Tehran are adding abominable woes and defeats to their black history and their afflicted people.

We have received from the battlefield of the I Army Corps sector part of the known losses the enemy aggressor forces sustained during their treacherous attacks on the night of 19-20 October 1983. The enemy losses so far counted opposite the heroic 29th Infantry Brigade sector and the units under this brigade's command amounted to over 1,500 dead, whose bodies are still littering the battlefield, in addition to large numbers of wounded and scores of troops captured. The POW's, who were evacuated to the rear, belong to the following enemy formations: The 3d Infantry Brigade of the 28th Infantry Division; a brigade belonging to the 3d Division of the Khomeyni guards; and a regiment from the 25th Division of the Khomeyni guards. The enemy also sustained the destruction of 10 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 16 vehicles — 10 of which were carrying personnel — 1 excavator, large numbers of various types of weapons, and quantities of various types of military equipment and hardware. The enemy did not manage to achieve any of the aims of its treacherous offensive. Our heroic units are still bearing down heavily on the enemy in order to inflict the heaviest losses on its aggressor forces. We will furnish you with further details tomorrow, God willing.

[Dated] 20 October 1983

'Very Fierce' Battle
JN210850 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA) — An Iraqi field commander has described Iraq's battle of confrontation with the Iranian aggression yesterday as very fierce.

In a statement published here today, he said that the ferocity of the battles is due to the large Iranian force that participated in this aggression. He explained that the target of this aggression was the heights that demarcate the Iraqi and Iranian territories. He stressed that the Iraqi fighters prevented the attacking forces from achieving their objectives and continued to destroy them all day yesterday.

The Iraqi field commander said that the Iraqi Air Force carried out 215 combat missions and played an important role in destroying the Iranian troop reinforcements that were sent to the battlefield. He added that the Iraqi units not only crushed the attack, but pursued the Iranian forces, confronted the forces supporting them, and struck their assembly points inside Iranian territory.

Forces Recapture High Ground

JN210858 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Panjwin, 21 Oct (INA) — In an urgent dispatch from the northern sector of the battlefront, an INA correspondent reports that the Iraqi forces carried out a surprise attack against the Iranian forces this morning, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on them. The INA correspondent said that he saw the Iraqi forces recapturing some of the heights that the Iranian forces succeeded in reaching at the beginning of their offensive last Wednesday night.

The INA correspondent said that the bodies of the Iranian soldiers are littering the battlefield, while the Iraqi forces took many Iranian prisoners and moved them to the rear lines. He added that the Iraqi forces' surprise attack inflicted heavy losses in war materiel on the enemy.

UN Memorandum Submitted

JN211158 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Iraq submitted an official memorandum to the United Nations yesterday on the Iranian aggression against the village of Panjwin. The memorandum, which was delivered to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and to Jordan's representative and president of the current UN Security Council session, 'Abdallah Salah, explained that Iran has waged a wide-scale attack in the northern sector with the purpose of violating Iraq's territorial integrity and with the Panjwin village as its target.

The memorandum added that while the Iraqi Armed Forces are confronting this blatant aggression and destroying the attacking forces, Iraq reserves for itself the right to reply by striking the Iranian aggressors anywhere necessary in order to make the Iranian aggressors understand that their desperate attempts to prolong the war, in violation of the desire of the UN Security Council and the entire international community, will not make them achieve their evil designs. The memorandum also stressed that Iraq is waging this war to defend its sovereignty, security, and national interests.

Press Comment

JN211003 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA) — Two Iraqi papers today stressed that the Iranian forces' new defeat in the northern sector will be so crushing that it will speed their end and will put them in a tight spot from which there can be no escape.

Ath-Thawrah says that the Iranian regime had been gathering its forces and preparing for the new aggression for nearly 3 months. The paper explains that the intelligence and technical means that the Iraqi forces possess have enabled them to accurately monitor all of the Iranian forces' moves and maneuvers. The paper says that the new Iranian offensive was not a surprise to the Iraqi forces, which were lying in wait for it, and this enabled them to confront and destroy it.

The paper held the Iranian rulers responsible for the harm and destruction that may befall Iran and the Iranians. The paper emphasizes that this time the Iraqi forces' objective is not only to crush the aggression, but to continue dealing blows to the enemy's head in order to paralyze his ability to pursue the war and thus force him to give up his evil designs and objectives.

Al-Jumhuriyah says that Iraq has drawn up a plan to strike at the aggressor deep inside his territory so that his present defeat will be the precursor of his inevitable end. The paper adds: We will not have mercy on them and we will not leave them free to prepare and carry out more aggressions, especially since they have, through their insistence on prolonging the war, waived any reason for mercy and have given us every justification for harming and destroying them.

The paper says that after all that Iraq has done for peace, it has no other choice than to continue the war and that it will continue the war until victory. The paper says that this time the Iranian forces' defeat will be so crushing that it will speed their end and will put them in a tight spot from which there can be no scape.

The paper concludes by saying that the soldiers of the I Army Corps who destroyed the new Iranian offensive are now being honored with the mission of driving the last nails into the enemy's coffin.

Radio Commentary

JN201722 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Khomeyniite regime has been preparing for this treacherous aggression against one of Iraq's pure areas for several months. Khomeyni's henchmen fabricated several propaganda campaigns with the aim of stirring the Iranians' enthusiasm. They made up all sorts of lies and shed false tears in front of naive people in an attempt to lure them to the battlefront. The Khomeyniite regime's leaders have missed all sorts of suitable occasions to attack Iraq due to their failure to complete all the necessary preparations for such an offensive. [sentence as heard]

Today, believing that they had completed their preparations, they launched a treacherous aggression against the village of Panjwin. They did not know that the knights of the I Army Corps were lying in wait for them to destroy them with all the rifles and other weapons in their hands. These knights opened their heavy fire on the hills and plains, making the enemy taste sudden death.

This is how we have always known all the innocent sons of Iraq and the brave men of the I Army Corps. They are the men who made a pledge to God, homeland, and leader to remain a towering mountain in the face of all the invaders who have ambitions regarding our land and wealth.

May God bless your hands, O heroes. Let the banners of victory flutter on the hills of Panjwin and all the mountains of our beloved north. The aggressors will not take hold of any part of our land, and Iraq's borders will be a graveyard for all the covetous invaders.

70,000 Kurdish Volunteers Ready To Fight Iran

JN201235 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Article by Usamah as-Salinhi: "Kurdistan and the New Aggression"]

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA) — After long hesitations and legitimate fears that their new offensive would be crushed, it seems that the Iranian rulers' designs and their expansionist objectives have gotten the upper hand.

That's why the Iranian forces began their new offensive against Iraqi territory in the Panjwin township, which is 5 km from Iraq's eastern international border. While the previous Iranian attack last August was against the northern area of Haj 'Umran, all indications regarding the course of the current battles in the Panjwin area show that this battle will have the same result as the previous one — that is, the extermination of a large part of the force participating in the new offensive.

The I Army Corps units will not be content with only dealing severe blows to the attacking force with the purpose of destroying it, but with foiling any attempt by the Iranian rulers to obtain gains from their new offensive.

The Iranian forces, which are desperately seeking to establish a foothold on the soil of Kurdistan, will certainly not be confronted only by the Iraqi forces' fire because the sons of the Kurdish people in the autonomous region are now at the peak of their readiness to participate in the battle of confrontation.

It was officially announced in Baghdad a few days ago that the number of Kurdish volunteer fighters ready to confront the Iranian aggression has reached 70,000.

This huge number of volunteers confirms to the Iranian rulers that their bet on obtaining military gains in the northern area has failed before it even started, thanks to the popular Kurdish participation in the fighting against the attacking forces.

Since last August's aggression, the autonomous region, that is the Irbil, As-Sulaymaniyah, and Dahuk Governorates, has been the scene of a popular mobilization to effectively participate in destroying any new aggression. In press statements, Kurdish citizens have stated that their participation on the side of the Iraqi Armed Forces in defending Iraqi territory is also a defense of the great achievements they have scored on the social and economic level, thanks to the implementation of the autonomous region law. In this respect, the Kurdish citizens compare their prosperous situation with that of the Kurds living in Iran, who are currently subjected to the vilest forms of mass extermination.

The Iraqi sources reiterate previous warnings of transforming the land of Kurdistan into fire that will burn the aggressors and recall a recent statement in which President Saddam Husayn said: It is a great honor for our Kurdish people to have a history record that the war ended with the enemy's defeat in the land of Kurdistan.

Agreement Reached With SFRY; Delegation Departs

JN201100 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad,, 20 Oct (INA) — Zvone Dragan, vice president of the SFRY Federal Council, and his accompanying delegation left Baghdad at dawn today at the end of a week-long visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA, Dragan said that his talks with Iraqi officials resulted in an agreement to exert more efforts to consolidate and promote the relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries that are in both countries' interests. Dragan added: Despite the war circumstances which Iraq is passing through and Yugoslavia's struggle for economic independence, both countries obtained good results which reflect the two countries' desire to pursue and expand economic and technical cooperation.

At the end of the meetings of the SFRY-Iraqi Joint Committee on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, Yugoslavia and Iraq last night signed the minutes of an agreement for joint economic cooperation. The agreement was signed for Iraq by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and for the SFRY by Zvone Dragan.

In speeches delivered during the signing ceremony, Hasan 'Ali and Dragan described these minutes as an embodiment of the deep trust which exists between the two countries and their determination to pursue the course of cooperation in the two friendly people's interests.

The minutes contain the bases for promoting relations of economic cooperation, trade between the two countries, and measures that will be applied with regard to the agreements reached during the session that was held in Belgrade last June.

President Receives Saudi Minister 20 Oct

JN201307 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] President Saddam Husayn this morning received Saudi Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr Ghazi 'Abd Ar-Rahman

al-Qusaybi, who conveyed an oral message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with brotherly cooperation between the two countries and the king's support for Iraq in defending Arab rights.

During the meeting, President Saddam stressed the importance of Arab solidarity and the need to support the PLO and to safeguard its unity and independent decisionmaking. The talk also dealt with a number of Arab issues and with the Arab position in general.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Light Industries Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah and the president's secretary.

Assembly Speaker Receives Sudanese Minister
JN201329 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad this morning received Sudanese Minister of Industry Muhammad Al-Bashir al-Waqi, who is currently visiting Iraq to attend the meetings of the fourth ordinary session of the board of directors of the Arab Industrial Development Organization. During the meeing, they reviewed the current situation in the Arab arena, particularly the aggressive war that the expansionist and rancorous Iranian regime is waging against Iraq. Haddad reviewed Iraq's great achievements under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn in the fields of development and industry [words indistinct] The Sudanese minister affirmed Sudan's stand against the Iranian aggression and its desire to develop relations between the two brotherly countries.

During the meeting, Haddad received a message the minister brought from the Sudanese People's Assembly deputy speaker. The message stressed the need to develop brotherly relations between the two countries.

Jordanian, Saudi Kings Phone Saddam Husayn
JN202028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA) — Jordan and Saudi Arabia have expressed their support for Iraq in its confrontation of the Iranian aggression and its defense of Arab rights. This came in two separate telephone calls Jordanian King Husayn and Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had with President Saddam Husayn today.

President Saddam Husayn briefed the Jordanian and Saudi monarchs on the latest developments in the new Iranian aggression against the I Army Corps sector and on our brave units' heroic repulsion of this aggression.

Husayn, Saddam Husayn Discuss Iranian Attack
JN201819 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn telephoned Iraqi President Saddam Husayn this evening. King Husayn and the Iraqi president exchanged opinions and consultations on the recent developments in the Arab arena. His majesty also assured himself of the situation on the Iraqi front and the Iraqi forces' confrontation of the aggressive Iranian attack which took place today at the northern border of the front.

President Saddam Husayn stressed to his majesty that the Iraqi forces have bravely repulsed this aggression and are continuing to deter the enemy.

His Majesty King Husayn praised the heroism and courage of the Iraqi Army in defending fraternal Iraq's soil, rights, and sovereignty.

King Receives Two Fatah Officials 20 Oct
JN201534 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Fatah Central Committee members Hani al-Hasan and Rafiq an-Natshah at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. The two sides reviewed the developments in the Palestinian question and the dimensions of the current PLO crisis. They also reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

His Majesty King Husayn stressed Jordan's support for Palestinian legitimacy as represented by the PLO. He also expressed his support for the unity and independence of the Palestinian will and decision. His majesty stressed the need for serious work to bolster the Palestinian people's steadfastness against the Zionist settlement plans and to help the people hold on to their land.

Radio Refutes Israeli Propaganda on New Weapons
JN201934 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1613 GMT 20 Oct 83

["Today's Talk"]

[Text] The fabricated media uproar which Israel has recently raised is justified in light of the Israeli policy, but it is not justified on any other level, because Israel always raises such an uproar when Jordan tries to modernize the weapons and equipment of its Army. This uproar is due to old reasons which are known to everyone. Israel does not want to see any Arab state possessing the means to defend itself because it seeks, through time, to implement its expansionist and hostile plans without facing any obstacles. This has been the Israeli strategy since its establishment on the rubble of the Palestinian homeland.

Israel is still using this strategy to prevent any Arab state from possessing the power to say no to the ambitions of the Zionist invasion or to defend itself. The Jordanian Army, which has inherited the lofty principles and message of the great Arab revolution, constitutes, at any given time, a rapid intervention force to defend its land and the Arabs' land wherever this land may be and whatever the challenges may be.

Any Arab state which can obtain means of force from any side cannot satisfy Israel, because Israel knows that force will constitute an obstacle to its expansionist policies. In addition to this, Israel wants to present itself to the West as the policeman appointed to protect the West's interests in the region, as if the region does not possess the strength to defend its pan-Arab interests.

These are facts that are well-known to everyone throughout the great Arab homeland. These facts are known to the Iraqis, Syrians, Egyptians, Lebanese, Palestinians, and all Arabs. They also know that Israel does not distinguish among the sources of the Arab force because it is aware of the fact that this force will eventually be a force to defend the Arabs' interests and their great homeland as well as to contain the hostile Zionist ambitions.

Jordan, as the commander in chief of its forces has said, has always been and will continue to be a support for all its Arab brothers in the same manner as Jordan sees in them a support and aid in times of hardship. Support for brothers is a course which was drawn up by leader King Husayn more than 30 years ago. The history of the Jordanian Army is the best proof of its deep Arab affiliation, regardless of the diversity of the sources of its armament.

Thus, Israel, which has always been seeking to prevent the Arabs from obtaining sophisticated weapons, is seeking today to prevent us from obtaining those weapons as it had done in the mid-seventies. It is also creating a fabricated uproar about the armament of the Jordanian Army. This uproar must not deceive anyone in our Arab world, especially since everyone has become aware of why the Arabs insist on supplying themselves with the means of force and why Israel spares no effort to prevent the Arabs from possessing the strength to defend themselves and permit their survival.

Daily Warns Against Delaying Lebanese Dialogue
JN210939 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 21 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today on Lebanon, *Sawt ash-Sha'b* says: With the postponment of the Lebanese national dialogue conference, Lebanon will once again enter political blind alleys, violations of cease-fire will be renewed, and the game of exchanging fire will be played again as every party tries to achieve gains at the expense of the other party.

As neither national dialogue and the civil war that has been raging for 8 years were not purely Lebanese decisions, neither is the hesitation in beginning the dialogue a purely Lebanese decision. External political factors and foreign interference and ambitions are still playing with the destinies of Lebanon and its people. They push Lebanon toward reconciliation one time, and

away from it another time; they place it in the fire of fighting one time, and at the brink of hope another time.

Under the umbrella of fear that one party would control another, Lebanon, which is internally collapsed and divided into sects, hopes that reconciliation of the big powers involved in its problem will be achieved so that the Lebanese reconciliation will begin in the Lebanese arena. The United States frankly indicated Syria's role in hampering the national reconciliation, so the United States and its allies will guarantee preconditions at the expense of the reconciliation. The United States also emphasized its determination to escalate its military role in support of the central government in Lebanon if Syria decides to obstruct the national dialogue in Lebanon.

Has the Syrian reconciliation with Washington become a condition for the success of the internal Lebanese reconciliation? Would such a reconciliation become a prelude to a comprehensive solution in the Middle East? We say this in light of the heightening of U.S. tone and assertions that the Lebanese problem is the key to the solution in the Middle East, that U.S. strategy in our region is based on revitalizing peace efforts to reach a settlement in the Middle East, and that Washington is concerned with finding an improved formula for the Reagan plan.

Sawt ash-Sha'b concludes: Moving the Lebanese reconciliation process from Beirut airport to a place outside the Lebanese borders may carry new political dimensions and may mean that the solution cannot be achieved inside Lebanon. In any event, Lebanon, with its people and factions, is the one that is paying for the wasted time. As long as procrastination exists, Lebanon will be the one to suffer. Those who play havoc with its destiny will guarantee their share of the booty.

Last Installment of Saudi '83 Subsidy Received

JN201950 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Under Secretary of Finance Dr 'Abd al-Majid al-Qsim has said that the Jordanian Government today received the third and last installment of the Saudi subsidy for 1983. This subsidy was approved at the Baghdad Arab summit. Dr al-Qsim praised Saudi Arabia's pan-Arab stands and its continued support for Jordan and other Arab brothers in all fields.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B: MENA To Open Office in Amman

JN201607 Amman Sawt ash-Sha'b in Arabic 20 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Sawt ash-Sha'b* has learned that the Egyptian MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY has decided to open an office in Amman. Its correspondent will begin work in the Jordanian capital as of 1 November 1983.

National Dialogue Committee To Meet in Geneva

Salim Announces Venue Agreement

NC201932 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim announced a short while ago that agreement has been reached on holding the meeting of the National Dialogue Committee in a friendly country. Minister Salim said that President al-Jumayyil has given him instructions to hold the necessary contacts to prepare for the meeting, and that Minister Salim has actually begun his contacts.

Rafiq al-Hariri, the assistant to Saudi envoy Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, has held contacts with all the parties concerned with the Dialogue Committee. His contacts resulted in a positive stand. Al-Hariri said:

[Begin recording] I have informed His Excellency Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim of the results of the contacts I held with all the parties of the National Dialogue Committee and with His Excellency Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The outcome, thanks be to Almighty God, was positive. All the parties agreed on the venue of the meeting. [end recording]

Speaking on the same subject, Minister Salim said:

[Begin recording] I have conveyed to His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil the outcome of the contacts which Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri has held and the agreement which was reached on the venue of the meeting of the National Dialogue Committee. This agreement was welcomed by his excellency the president. He gave me instructions for immediate approval and for holdingthe necessary diplomatic contacts quickly, since the meeting will be held in the territory of a friendly state — something which will require diplomatic and protocol measures with this state. I actually began these contacts, and we are looking forward to the convocation of the meeting very soon. We shall announce the venue and date of the meeting as soon as the diplomatic contacts are completed. [end recording]

Syria Accepts Geneva Venue

NC202244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2210 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] A short while ago REUTER reported from Damascus a statement by Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq Ash-Shar' in which he said that all the Lebanese parties have agreed on Geneva as the venue for holding the national reconciliation talks. In a statement to the U.S. NBC network, Ash-Shar' said that he does not know the date for the convocation of the meeting but that it may be held very soon.

The question that is posed now is: Which friendly state is the one the [Lebanese] foreign minister had referred to and which will witness the Lebanese reconciliation meeting?

The Lebanese official sources did not want to define the venue until the diplomatic contacts that will be held with that state become clear and its agreement is obtained so that the date and the venue can be announced simultaneously. These sources have said that the contacts have actually started through the diplomatic channels and the answer is expected to come today or tomorrow at the latest. The sources said that the meeting will be held at the beginning of next week.

But media on sources tonight said that Geneva is the city in which the dialogue will be held due to the fact that Minister Salim had said that the state is friendly, and not fraternal, which means that Jidda is no longer considered. The proposal to hold the meeting in Geneva had been previously proposed as the only possible alternative.

'All Parties Concerned' Agree

JN210745 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut —Reports from Beirut last night said that all parties concerned in Lebanon have agreed to another venue of the national reconciliation conference. These reports quoted Lebanese sources as saying that the conference will convene in a friendly country, and that an official statement will be announced fixing venue and date of the conference as soon as diplomatic and protocol contacts with this country succeed.

It is noteworthy that the Lebanese National Salvation Front had categorically rejected, through former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the convening of this conference at Beirut International Airport.

Beirut Reports Agreement

NC210934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The agreement on the venue of the National Dialogue Conference in a friendly and non-Arab state has been received with full satisfaction in political circles. Observers consider the agreement as an important step toward achieving political and security relaxations. It appears that the venue, which will be the UN Palace in Geneva, will be officially announced after Lebanon receives the Swiss Government's official approval. The Lebanese envoy to Geneva is making preparations for convening the Dialogue Conference, setting a final venue, and selecting the accommodations where the president and the accompanying delegation will stay. He will also select accommodations for the members invited to attend the conference, including the Saudi and Syrian observers.

Swiss Agree; Junblatt Statement

NC211010 Paris AFP in English 1003 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut, Oct 21 (AFP) — Switzerland has agreed to allow the Lebanese national reconciliation congress to take place in Geneva, the Swiss charge d'affaires said here today. The Swiss representative, Pierre Burdet, said after a talk with Foreign Minister Elie Salim: "I informed the minister of the agreement by Swiss authorities to host the conference, which should take place in coming days in Geneva."

The announcement by Mr Burdet followed a statement last night by Mr Salim, who said all the parties involved had agreed to hold the conference "on the terrritory of a friendly country." He did not name Switzerland, because talks with Swiss officials were still going on.

In making the announcement today, Mr Burdet declined to give further details on the date of the conference, saying he and Mr Salim would have further talks on that subject. But, he said, Geneva's hotels are currently booked up by a telecommunications conference.

He added, however, that the talks would take place in the "very near future." He said he (?and Mr) Salim had no [word indistinct] their duration.

Concerning the exact location of the conference, he said that topic would be the subject of a statement.

(In reacting to the announcement in Damascus, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Druze Progressive Socialist Party, said today that he wanted the talks held in a Geneva hotel, rather than at a Lebanese diplomatic office.

(In a statement to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Mr Junblatt said: "We will not take part in the meeting if it takes place at the Lebanese Embassy or consulate in Geneva." He added that he himself had suggested Geneva as a meeting place.

(In addition, Mr Junblatt offered what he called "observations" on the layout of the tables at the conference.

(He said they must be placed in such a way as to make "clearly apparent the two parties in conflict: the government and the 'Lebanese Front' on one side, and the opposition on the other.")

The Lebanese Front is the Christian political coalition that generally supports the government.

Beirut Confirms Geneva Venue

NC211022 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Swiss Charge d'Affaires Pierre Burdet has announced that Switzerland has agreed to host the dialogue conference in Geneva, adding that the date of the dialogue will be set soon.

Bern: 'Organizational Problems' Remain

LD211118 Bern International Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Excerpt] [Passage indistinct] says that while this country agrees in principle to a Lebanese Government request to hold the conference here, there are organizational problems which still have to be settled. Geneva is the site most favored for the meeting but there are problems of accomodation because of the large international telecommunications exhibition and conference in the city, which lasts until the end of this month. A Swiss Foreign Ministry spokeswoman in Bern said discussions were now underway on whether to hold the Lebanon conference elsewhere in Switzerland or postpone it until next month.

AFP: Meeting 'Next Week'

NC211144 Paris AFP in English 1136 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Geneva, Oct 21 (AFP) — The Lebanese national reconciliation congress that will take place here will be delayed until late next week because all of Geneva's major hotels are filled for a telecommunications fair, informed Arab sources said today.

The reports came after Swiss officials in Geneva confirmed that Switzerland would host the talks, which are part of a cease-fire agreement on September 25. The aim of the talks is to increase the influence on non-Christian factions in the Beirut government.

The sources here said the talks, which had long been delayed over disputes on where they should be held, would again be held up because of the "Telecom '83" fair, which takes place every four years. The Lebanese Government had so much difficulty in obtaining the accord of all the factions that have been invited to the conference, the sources said, that it preferred to await the end ofthe fair rather than look for another site. The sources said that about 50 people would take part in the conference. The 12 delegations would have three members each, not including secretaries and bodyguards.

Washington Reportedly To 'Freeze' May Accord

NC210744 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The Syrian newspaper *Tishrin* reports that Washington is inclined to freeze the accord between Lebanon and Israel before the dialogue meeting so that the accord will not be put up for debate.

Legislative Decree on Work of Political Parties

NC210655 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0650 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Legislative Decree No 135 has defined the work of political associations and parties in Lebanon. The decree bans the formation of any political party with connections to a non-Lebanese party. The decree, furthermore, bans non-Lebanese from forming or joining political parties in Lebanon.

Paris Paper Interviews PSP's Junblatt 12 October

PM201215 Paris Le Matin in French 13 Oct 83 p 40

[Interview with Druze leader Walid Junblatt by Marc Kravetz in Paris on 12 October]

[Text] *Le Matin*: You had a meeting with [French External Relations Minister] Claude Cheysson this morning: Is this the end of the "war" between you and the French Government?

Walid Junblatt: I am not at war with Claude Cheysson. I have

problems with the Socialist Party, but that is a different matter. I think that your external relations minister has realized the importance of the two fundamental problems to be solved for this national reconciliation among the Lebanese: the reform of the Lebanese institutions and the question of Lebanon's relations with its neighbors. The first is an intra-Lebanese affair and relates to the Lebanese people's will to find a solution. The second is a question of realizing that the 17 May agreement (between Israel and Lebanon) is unfavorable to Lebanon and is drawing it toward inevitable partition.

Le Matin: You have said some very harsh things about French policy and the French Army's attitude in Lebanon over the past few weeks. Do you still stand by them?

Walid Jublatt: The French followed the U.S. Army's wake in Lebanon. Even if the action by the Super Etendard aircraft was more spectacular than deadly they were taking part in a "gunboat policy" which we cannot accept.

Le Matin: The Druze militia, especially those in your party, the Progressive Socialist Party, are accused of massacring Christian villagers. How do you answer those accusations?

Walid Junblatt: Many people died in the Christian villages. Each village was turned into a fortress by the Lebanese Forces, and the civilian population probably believed in the invincibility of the Phalangist legions which we finally defeated. Nonetheless a massacre was perpetrated by our militia in the village of Ma'asir. That was a stupid act of vengeance at the outset, and I can say nothing else about it other than that those responsible for that massacre — there are 12 of them — have been arrested, are now being held, and will be tried by us.

Junblatt 'Skeptical' About Peace

AU201526 Rome ANSA in English 1515 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] (ANSA) Rome October 20 — "I am skeptical about the chances for a real peace based on a political settlement.... In the meantime there are enormous problems to solve, first of all the destruction of war".

This is the gist of an interview Lebanese Druze Leader Walid Junblatt granted the Milan daily *"Il Giornale"* from his residence at Al-Mukhtarah in the Ash-Shuf mountains east of Beirut.

Asked whether he intends to attend the meeting scheduled for today by the committee of national reconciliation at Beirut airport, Junblatt said he would not because he does not want Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil "to have the satisfaction of killing me so soon".

The Druze leader said the most important thing is to discuss and seek solutions also but avoid "excessive interference on the part of observers".

"The observers must deploy themselves only along the cease- fire line, let that be clear".

"I do not want people protecting the Maronite enclaves".

"We have asked the Lebanses Forces to move away from the two villages in the Ash-Shuf which they still control".

Junblatt also claimed that Syria agrees with his position, while in Europe, a veritable crusade is being mounted against me: The French have suddenly discovered they are so Chrisitan, and you Italians convened monsignors, inluding those of Beirut, at the Vatican...."

'Resistance' Forces Attack Israeli Patrols

NC201418 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Members of the Lebanese National Resistance carried out a new operation against an enemy patrol in the An-Nabatiyah area early this morning. The information which has been received confirms that two enemy vehicles were destroyed after receiving direct rocket hits from an ambush laid by the resistance men on the side of the road between Ad-Duwayr and Haruf. Eyewitnesses said more than 10 casualties, killed and wounded, fell in the ranks of the enemy soldiers. Many ambulances were seen rushing to the area. The occupation forces cordoned off the area and sealed off the roads until 0700 today.

Our correspondent in the south reported that a group of Lebanese National Resistance men last night attacked an enemy patrol at the southern entrance of Sidon, using automatic weapons and handgrenades. A clash took place between the two sides which lasted about 30 minutes. An unspecified number of enemy soldiers were killed and wounded. Our correspondent said that ambulances were seen rushing to the area of the incident, but he could not determine the number of enemy casualties because of the security cordon which was imposed in the area.

Our correspondent added that an explosive device went off last night near one of the positions of the so-called army of free Lebanon in An-Nabatiyah, causing a number of casualties. As usual, the occupation forces cordoned off the area..

French Soldier Wounded in Bomb Explosion 20 Oct

NC201550 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] At 1545 today, an explosive device went off near a French patrol passing over Fu'ad Shihab Bridge, wounding a French soldier, a military spokesman of the French Forces said.

Press on Lebanese, International Dialogues

NC210746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the title "We Want Only a Great Lebanon," the newspaper *An-Nahar* says: It is a deaf person's dialogue between President al-Asad and President Reagan over Lebanon.

The Syrian president accuses the United States of wanting a greater Israel while the U.S. President accuses President al-Asad of wanting a greater Syria.

The paper says: With the U.S., Syrian, and Israeli presence, and the talk about a greater Syria and a greater Israel, the discussion over the new venue and date of the dialogue becomes uneasy and serious. If the regime and those invited to the dialogue do not begin this dialogue anywhere as soon as possible, they will miss the opportunity and awake to find that Lebanon has been moved into the main arena of conflict between the two giants, particularly as President Reagan has affirmed that his initiative in the area — which Syria, the Soviet Union, and Israel reject — will be maintained and that peace in Lebanon is the entry to it.

In this case, the conflict will continue for a long time. However, if there is to be a Syrian-U.S. solution or a U.S.-Soviet solution, the Lebanese will not be invited to the dialogue table, and the destiny of everything will be determined in their absence. The deferred dialogue will actually be annulled and it will be replaced by a regional and an international dialogue — the Syrian-U.S., the U.S.-Israeli, and the U.S.-Soviet dialogue.

Official Returns From Cairo Trade Talks

NC201753 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text]Sami Marun, chairman of the National Council for External Economic Relations, returned to Beirut at 1630 today after holding successful talks in Cairo, which resulted in the agreement of the Egyptian economy minister to permit the import of Lebanese apples worth $15 million. Mr Marun held intensive contacts with Egyptian officials which dealt in particular with the Egyptian Government's implementation of economic and trade agreements signed between Lebanon and Egypt in 1965.

Papers Criticize Reagan Comments on Syria

President's 'Threats' Denounced

JN210814 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Text] Commenting on Reagan's threats, *Al-Ba'th* says: Devoting the major part of his news conference to Syria, the U.S. President once again issued more threats and warnings to it. Reagan considers Syria the obstacle to peace in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Reagan blatantly contradicted himself when he viewed the Israeli occupation of Lebanon as a legitimate action justified by self-defense and when he viewed his administration's acceptance of Israel's designs and objectives as action that serves peace while considering the Arabs, whose territories are occupied, the enemies of stability in the region so long as they do not recognize Israel and do not approve of the U.S. schemes here.

Although the U.S. press has admitted that arming the Israelis with the most sophisticated weapons the U.S. war industries produce constitutes a factor of instability in the Middle East, Reagan continued to attack Syria when he stated that its possession of defensive weapons is a threat and when he stated that the legitimate Syrian demand for Arab rights is incompatible with the U.S.-Israeli alliance.

What does the President of the United States want from the Arabs, and from Syria in particular, in light of all his hostile stands against Syria and the Arabs? Reagan answered this by calling for the fulfillment of all Israeli desires, by defending the Zionists' crimes in Beirut, and by justifying the dreams and objectives of world Zionism, which seeks to occupy the Arab homeland.

We are very well aware of the U.S. ability to conspire, betray, and falsify facts, but the time when Washington could deploy its fleets and Air Force to topple a regime or to massacre a people is long gone. The realization of this fact is what made Reagan launch such vituperations and threats to Syria and the Arabs.

If the U.S. military concentrations mean anything, they indicate the irrefutable fact that Syria is an impregnable bastion that cannot be penetrated by U.S. militarism and the diplomacy that supports it. They also mean that penetrating the Syrian wall is too difficult for those who dream of doing so. As Reagan admitted, Syria will remain an obstacle in the face of all the schemes aimed against the Arab nnation and its rights.

From this premise, it becomes clear to all those who are interested in political affairs that the policy of threats and warnings Reagan launched does not stem from U.S. strength but from the fact that the Syrian stand against the United States and its ally Israel is a strong and firm one. If the United States has been somewhat reassured by some of the differences that govern Arab relations, it must take counsel from the Iranian lesson, and must carefully and seriously study the statement by leader Al-Asad that we have no choice but to defend our land and our Arab nation's dignity.

'Vicious, Reckless Campaign'

JN211107 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 21 Oct (SANA) — In its editorial today, *Ath-Thawrah* says: The U.S. President inaugurated a new stage in the vicious and reckless campaign of threats against Syria and injected more imperialist poison in statements he made yesterday that show the White House's concern because of the failure of Washington's schemes in the Middle East. In its editorial under the headline "The Vicious Campaign Against Syria Will Not Save U.S. Schemes," *Ath-Thawrah* adds: As he is witnessing the failure of U.S. policy and defeat of its hegemony schemes over the Arab region as well as their effect on his reelection position, President Reagan is trying to hold Syria responsible for this failure. This is because Syria has neither submitted nor surrendered, but has stood as a bastion in the face of aggression and hegemony schemes.

Ath-Thawrah describes Reagan's statements as stupid. It says: The campaign against Syria will not serve the United States and will not save its schemes and policy in the Middle East from their defeat and failure.

Ath-Thawrah concludes: Syria's reply to these vicious campaigns will be more steadfastness and determination in confronting the U.S. scheme and its agent tools.

MacEachen, Canadian Delegation Continue Activities

Meeting With Prime Minister

JN201408 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external relations, and his accompanying delegation at 1200 today. The meeting was attended by the Canadian ambassador in Damascus.

MacEachen stressed the need to develop relations between Syria and Canada particularly in the economic and trade fields. He also stressed Canada's desire to exert efforts for peace in this region, and explained its policy toward all Middle East issues.

Dr al-Kasm stressed the need to develop relations between Syria and Canada, explaining that the achievement of peace is the main objective of Syria's struggle — peace that is based on right and justice, embodying UN resolutions and the world community's aspirations, and meeting the demands of the Palestinian people toward achieving their national legitimate rights and establishing their independent state on the soil of their homeland. Al-Kasm pointed out that what obstructs the achievement of peace in the region is the continued aggressive policy of Israel and its supporters.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on various issues of common interest to Syria and Canada.

Received by Al-Asad

JN201917 Damascus Doemstic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external relations, and his accompanying delegation at 1445 today. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Canadian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, discussion dealt with the situation in the region and bilateral relations.

News Conference Held

JN202101 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 20 Oct (SANA) — Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed Syria's important role in the Arab-Zionist conflict toward acheiving a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. This came in a news conference held at the Sheraton Hotel in Damascus this evening by the Canadian foreign minister and attended by a number of Arab and foreign news agency correspondents.

He said: My discussions with the Syrian officials dealt with bilateral relations and the current situation in the region. I sensed the importance of the effective and principal role which Syria could play in acheiving a just peace in the region.

MacEachen affirmed his country's desire to develop and promote relations between Syria and Canada, particularly in the field of commercial and economic exchange to benefit both countries. He also declared his country's support for Syria's efforts to preserve the unity, sovereignty, and independence of Lebanon's land and people. He called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

MacEachen noted the importance of acheiving a peace in the Middle East that guarantees the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the establishment of their independent state on their land. MacEachen affirmed that the Canadian Government is willing to hold contacts with the PLO's representatives on the official level. He indicated that it was not Canada's affair to decide who the PLO chairman is.

MacEachen denounced the Israeli policy that calls for the establishment of settlements in occupied Arab territories. He said that Canada supports UN Resolution 242, which stipulates the withdrawal of Siraeli forces from the occupied Arab territories in order to attain just peace in the region.

Opposition to Jordanian Task Force Expressed

TA201220 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 6

[Report by Washington-based correspondent 'Oded Granot]

[Text] Israel today made it clear to the U.S. Administration that it takes a harsh view of the intention to establish a Jordanian deployment force to be armed and trained by the Americans.

The Israeli opposition to this was broached in a meeting between Israeli Ambassador to the United States Me'ir Rosenne and Secretary of State George Shultz.

In the talk it transpired that, contrary to published reports, the administration does not intend to bring up new proposals for solving the Israeli-Arab conflict. However, consultations are continuing within the framework of the National Security Council regarding U.S. policies in Lebanon and the ways to overcome Syrian efforts to undermine the process of national reconciliation.

The United States last night warned the member countries of the United Nations against an attempt to suspend Israel's membership at today's discussion in the General Assembly.

HA'ARETZ Commentary

TA201445 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 7

[Commentary by correspondent in the United States 'Uzi Benziman: "His Majesty's Soldiers"]

[Excerpt] One country is not considered a candidate for the post of U.S. fireman in the Persian Gulf, and that is Israel. The Americans have very good reasons, in their opinion, not to involve Israel in the scheme. From a U.S. point of view, it is inconceivable to rely on the IDF for a possible intervention in the Gulf countries, since the countries needing the aid when the time comes must agree to it, and which one of them will agree to Israel doing the job?

The U.S. logic is different from the Israeli. Israel continues to feel insulted since it found out that the United States sent it to the servants quarters rather than to the guest room. Israel assumes that it is the military power in the Middle East and that the United States understands this. Israel thinks that in the deepest recesses of its mind, America assumes that in time of real trouble the IDF can be relied upon. Israel is asking that this assumption somehow be made public. Israel is not content with the duty assigned to it by the administration in preparing an infrastructure for rapid intervention across the ocean (mainly: logistic cooperation by using the ports of the country). This is why Israel opposed the idea of establishing the Jordanian unit.

The common reason is the fear of increasing Jordan's military power, which might be directed toward Israel. However, in actual fact, the reason for the opposition is different: Israel wants to stop a move that will strengthen the status of an Arab element in the eyes of the administration and Congress. Israel wants to undermine the emerging trend of Arab countries (Saudi Arabia, Egypt and now Jordan) supporting U.S. interests in the Middle East.

The Israeli opposition might disrupt the U.S. Administration's moves. During an election year, Israel has a fair chance of marshaling its supporters on Capitol Hill to frustrate the plan for the Jordanian unit, even if the Israeli claim itself is not convincing enough. After the unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon, it is doubtful whether the Israeli assumption that in the end the U.S. Administration relies on the IDF has as much validity. After the contribution of Ari'el Sharon to the strategic relations between Jerusalem and Washington (remember the joint memorandum?), it is doubtful whether it is right to assume that the U.S. Administration trusts Israel. After seeing the prolonged internal crisis in Israel, it is doubtful whether Israel's image as the Hercules of the Middle East should be supported and justified.

All this does not mean that the U.S. idea for establishing the Jordanian unit is a good and practical one. It might only be another new, naive wish. Is it really wise to count on the Arab Legion rushing to the service of the United States in order to intervene in a regional war? Is it reasonable to expect that in case of a tribal clash in Saudi Arabia which threatens the existence of the ruling house, Jordan will gladly send its commando unit there? Is the administration right in putting all its faith in the stability of King Husayn's attitude?

The White House intends to adhere to its plan. In order to soften the Israeli opposition, it might initiate some moves that will demonstrate the ties between the two countries. While writing these words, the invitation to Defense Minister Arens is being discussed. Consultations are being held in the White House regarding U.S. policies on the Middle East and Lebanon in particular. If Arens does arrive here in the near future, he will be given reports from the United States on the results of those consultations. However, it can be assumed that he will be asked to work toward removing the Israeli opposition to establishing the Jordanian task force.

U.S. Asks That Al-Awwali Bridges Remain Open

TA201140 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 6

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Administration is asking Israel not to close the Al-Awwali bridges to civilian traffic. The United States expressed a fear that such a step would cause a de facto division of Lebanon into Syrian and Israeli areas of influence and would separate southern Lebanon from the rest of the country.

Jerusalem told Washington that at this stage there is no decision regarding the closing of the Al-Awwali bridges. However, Israel confirmed to U.S. officials that discussions regarding such a possibility have been held between the senior echelons of the political and defense systems. The senior military echelon supports closing the bridges, while the political echelon has reservations in view of the political sensitivity and international implications of such a step.

Shamir Receives New U.S. Envoy Fairbanks

TA201618 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Today U.S. envoy Richard Fairbanks reported to Jerusalem that the reconciliation conference in Lebanon will meet next week, despite the difficulties. Today Fairbanks spoke with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and before that he met with the top echelons of the Foreign Ministry. In the meeting with Fairbanks, Shamir praised the speech made last night by the U.S. President. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

[Begin recording] First Philip Habib was here, then came Robert MaFarlane, and today Richard Fairbanks. There is no official appointment yet, but political circles in Jerusalem believe that it is Fairbanks who will be appointed the President's envoy in the Middle East after McFarlane's upgrading to the post of adviser on national security affairs. Fairbanks is optimistic about the convening of the reconciliation conference in Lebanon as early as this coming week. As for the conference's chance of producing an agreement, the U.S. ambassador is less optimistic. Fairbanks also reported that the obstacles to positioning an observers' force in Lebanon, a force to supervise the cease-fire, have been removed.

The ambassador brought with him to the talks Carl Steiner, a general in the U.S. Army and the man responsible for training the Lebanese Army soldiers. Steiner evaluated the Lebanese Army's capability today. He said Lebanese Army soldiers had stood up very well to the test of Suq al-Gharb and Beirut. In another 2 weeks, another round of training will end, and new units will be put at the disposal of the central administration in Lebanon.

Apart from the report on Lebanese affairs, at the center of Fairbanks' talks was last night's speech by U.S. President Reagan. That speech was something of a good surprise to Jerusalem. In contrast to the worried expectations, Reagan did not refer to the Jordanian deployment force, and he devoted most of his remarks to a sharp attack against Syria and its intentions in Lebanon. Shamir praised the speech to the envoy, saying that the statement reinforced the status of the Government of Lebanon faced with the Syrian pressures. Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, in another talk, said that anyone who thought that because of the new deployment Israel had completed its business in Lebanon was gravely mistaken. We have a security interest there and we will not allow Syrian control of Lebanon, the deputy minister said. [end recording]

Press Comments on Reagan Press Conference

TA210922 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 21 Oct 83

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Davar* writes that President Reagan's new national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, returned to Washington from the Middle East equipped with a better understanding of the subtleties of the area and with a feeling that the key to extricating the United States from the Lebanese tangle is held by the Syrian president. Stubborn as he might be, President Reagan might be convinced in the end and adopt the conciliatory line of his advisers. The Government of Israel, which today cannot be more like Reagan than Reagan himself, must be prepared for this moment and try and talk to Syria on its own.

Hatzofe says that President Reagan's warning to Syria was not only intended to signal to the Syrians that they must be less rigid and join the practical negotiations on an arrangement. It was also intended to remind them that the United States is adamant in its intention to stand by the Lebanese Government and that the U.S. Marines will continue to stay in Lebanon until an arrangement is reached there. The recent attacks on the Marines were carried out, without a doubt, under Syrian influence. The Syrians, who are aware of the great sensitivity in the United States to the subject of U.S. soldiers' stay overseas, think that the attacks on the Marines will move the Americans to minimize their intervention in Lebanon. However, President Reagan's firm statements show that if the attacks on the U.S. Marines continue they will resort to more active reactions.

U.S. Plan for Territories Causes Concern

TA201201 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report by U.S.-based correspondent 'Uzi Benziman and political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Washington — A U.S. plan to interfere in the affairs of the occupied territories by extending what is defined as "humanitarian aid to its Palestinian residents" is gradually taking shape in the State Department. This was learned by a *Ha'aretz* correspondent.

The plan aims to present Israel with a line of proposals designed to improve the situation of the Palestinian residents in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The proposals are designed to increase the residents' standard of living in the economic sphere as well as in the cultural sphere. Among other things, the proposals are intended to relieve Israeli pressure on the Arab universities in the West Bank.

The plan's initiators are careful to describe it as a humanitarian move only, nurtured by Secretary of State George Shultz, in pursuit of his interest in the humanitarian aspect of the Palestinian problem.

Nevertheless, guarded hope can be detected in the corridors of the State Department that if the plan is carried out, it will enable the formation of a moderate Palestinian leadership in the territories.

A delegation from the State Department visited Israel and the occupied territories a few weeks ago in order to draw up the plan. The delegation, headed by William Kirby, a special adviser in the State Department, met with Israeli officials and public representatives in the West Bank. It also visited Jordan. Since their return to Washington, Kirby and his colleagues have been working on their proposals, which will be presented to Secretary of State George Shultz for consideration. The U.S. initiative is aimed at circumventing obstacles placed by the Military Admin-

istration in the territories in the way of economic and cultural initiatives because of its fear of their political significance.

In the plan now taking shape, the United States is trying to convince Israel to relax its supervision over the economic and cultural life in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in a way that will enable more freedom of action for the local population.

President Reagan was about to hold a press conference this morning (at 0200 local time) — his first in almost 3 months. Last night it was reported that at this press conference Reagan might announce a new initiative regarding the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon.

Ha'aretz political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar reports that concern was shown yesterday in Jerusalem with regard to President Reagan's intention to renew his Middle Eastern initiative. Foreign Ministry Director David Kimche said yesterday at the ministry meeting that they should be prepared to face the possibility that the United States will exert renewed pressure on Israel with respect to subjects on which the two countries disagree, such as the subject of Lebanon and the settlements. Members of the Foreign Ministry told a *Ha'aretz* correspondent that the embassy in Washington was not sufficiently up to date on the subject of developments in the U.S. administration and was not warning Jerusalem against such developments on time. On the subject of the task force in Jordan as well, criticism was leveled at the embassy's activity, which created unnecessary tension with the administration.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir recently relegated some Foreign Ministry affairs to his deputy, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, and to Director General David Kimche. He will spend Thursday only at the Foreign Ministry and during the rest of the week will handle only subjects of special political significance from his office.

Arens Interviewed on Lebanon, Settlements

TA201057 Tel Aviv Yoman Hashavu'a in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 pp 16, 17

["Exclusive" interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Adar Qeysari; date and place not given]

[Text] Arens: I will address myself to two central issues. The first: My position on Judaea and Samaria has not changed even one bit. On the contrary, the unprecedented buildup of the Arab armies has only strengthened my positions on the issue of the territories. And today we must be more alert to this threat than ever before. The second issue: I was not so opposed at any cost to the peace agreement with Egypt as a matter of principle as I would be to any concessions in Judaea and Samaria. The question at stake at that time was the extent of our concessions: a withdrawal from the whole of the Sinai, the removal of our settlements there, and foregoing the oil wells which had met a significant part of Israel's needs. All these came in the face of the uncertainty that these far-reaching concessions would definitely bring a lasting peace between us and Egypt, with all the implications this term entails.

I have not changed my opinion since then and if turns out that the high price we paid was justified I will admit that those who signed the agreement were right.

Question: How do you assess this peace today?

Answer: When I see what is happening today it is hard for me to be optimistic and fears begin to arise within me that in exchange for the entire Sinai we actually got nothing.

Question: The main bone of contention in the recent negotiations between the Likud and the Alignment over the establishment of a national unity government was Jewish settlement in Judaea and Samaria.

Answer: That is correct. The Alignment agreed to Jewish settlement based on the Allon Plan, in the Jordan Rift Valley, the vicinity of Jerusalem, the Hebron Mount and the southern part of the Gaza Strip. Actually, the main difference between the Likud and the Alignment centers on Samaria.

Question: The Alignment leaders argue that those unreturnable areas mentioned in the Allon Plan meet Israel's security needs and that Samaria is not vital to Israel's defense. What is your position on this matter in your capacity as defense minister?

Answer: With respect to the security aspect, it is clear that in the absence of full Israeli control over all the areas of Judaea and Samaria the State of Israel would be endangered. We should not forget that the mountains of Judaea and Samaria overlook our big cities and our most densely-populated areas.

Question: MK Yiga'el Hurvitz — who, among other things, persists in his demand to effect significant cuts in the government budget — has said that settlement in Judaea and Samaria should also be given top priority in the future. In light of the high security importance of Judaea and Samaria and despite the need to effect budget cuts, do you not believe that there is room for increasing the settlement budget for those areas?

Answer: Resources are increased according to priorities. In my opinion, settlement in Judaea and Samaria should be given the highest priority in the budgetary aspect as well.

Question: And what about the U.S. position? Do you believe that in order to maintain good relations with the United States there is also room for making any concessions whatsoever in Israel's vital security and settlement issues?

Answer: Certainly not. Our good relations with the United States are definitely important for as long as Israel exists and is developing. Under no circumstances should we imperil the existence and development of our state. Luckily, we have never faced such a choice in the past and I also hope we do not face it in the future.

Question: Is there a chance that we will succeed in bringing peace to southern Lebanon, in the area ranging from the Al-Awwali River to the international border, and free it of acts of terror and harassment as we did in the past in the Gaza Strip?

Answer: There is an essential difference between southern Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. Unlike the Gaza Strip, southern Lebanon is not part of Eretz Yisra'el and when it becomes possible, in terms of the security of the northern part of our country, we intend to leave that area. Therefore, the range of activities in these two areas is totally different. If it emerges that the open bridges on the Al-Awwali River cause us serious security problems we will contemplate the possibility of closing the Al Awwali line.

Question: Would it be correct to say that since the IDF's withdrawal to the Al-Awwali line there has been a drop in the intensity of terrorist attacks?

Answer: Indeed, a significant drop has occurred recently for three reasons: The PLO factions are busy fighting each other; the Al-Awwali line is more convenient than the previous line; and we have invested great efforts in curbing terrorist activities.

Question: Despite government statements that Israel intends to pull out from all of Lebanon when this becomes possible from the point of view of the well-being of the Galilee, in one breath Shim'on Peres continues to call for both the immediate pullout from southern Lebanon and for not foregoing the Galilee's security. Is this not a paradox?

Answer: Undoubtedly, there is a contradiction in the position of MK Shim'on Peres, who continues to call on us to leave southern Lebanon immediately. This is not feasible at this stage because we do not want to squander the security of the Galilee and northern Israel. I do not see a possibility, as the Alignment urges, of withdrawing from all of Lebanon in the next few weeks.

Question: Is there a chance that the Druze in Lebanon may expel the terrorists from the areas under their control?

Answer: We have urged and continue to urge the Druze on this issue. We have also been informed form their quarters that they definitely intend to do that. We are waiting to see whether the Druze really expel the terrorists from the Ash-Shuf Mountains and whether they have the necessary strength to do that. If the Druze ask for our help we would positively consider such a request.

Question: A proposal was made recently that Israel declare that it possesses atomic bombs with the aim of deterring our neighbors from embarking on any military adventures. Will we make use of that?

Answer: The moment Israel is unable to overcome its enemies in the conventional battlefield we will be in trouble. However, I am sure that such a moment will never arrive.

HA'ARETZ Calls for Arens Visit to U.S.

TA181503 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 18 Oct 83 p 9

[Commentary by Gid'on Samet: "Defense Minister Arens' Trip"]

[Text] In the art of when it is necessary to be silent, Defense Minister Arens has few competitors. In these days of pouncing on microphones, he spares us his views with his brilliant isolation. We do not know what he thinks about the bank shares affair and dollarization; he is almost the only one who did not divulge to us his candidate for finance minister.

Luckily he can afford to keep his counsel these days. However, these luxuries cannot be afforded as far as the United States is concerned. This arena has suddenly become deserted just when events requiring intensive activity are taking place there. A defense minister's visit to Washington has not been so necessary for a long time.

Talk of a trip in order to coordinate positions with the United States has lately focused on the prime minister. He is supposed to travel there sometime after the president's trip scheduled for mid-November. This is quite a late date. However, even if it is moved up, a first trip by a prime minister to Washington is too taken up with formal ceremonies and attire to be the correct framework for the practical business talks necessary these days.

The last official picture seen in Washington was the back of Finance Ministry Director General 'Ezra Sadan on his way home. And indeed, if there is any reason stopping Arens from going to the United States, as his confidants say, it is the scorched earth left there by the wonder boys of Yoram Aridor.

If he goes to Washington, Arens will have difficulty saying what he thinks about the proposal, which was not coordinated with him, to cut total aid in favor of an increase in the grant. After this proposal was "sold" to the Americans by the messengers of his colleague, it became a solid fact. He will be the first senior Israeli spokesman who will have to answer a long series of difficult questions in public and on camera on the state of economy, on the sensitive plan to set up a special task force in Jordan, and on Israel's intentions in Lebanon; the Americans, as confused as they are already, have a picture which becomes more blurred daily.

There are good reasons why a trip to Washington at this time is not an especially pleasant mission. However, it is exactly these reasons that make this trip necessary, and the issues on the agenda require that the traveler be the defense minsiter.

New U.S. thoughts seem to be emerging lately from the almost permanent confusion of the United States on the Middle East.

Washington is consolidating a view, hanging over the U.S. Administration corridors as an intellectual exercise for long months now, that there is no escaping an intimate understanding with Syria on the future of Lebanon. Israel, for its part, is gradually beginning to understand the limitations of its power in the north. Since the beginning of the war Israel has initiated every important move there, but for many long months now Israel has allowed events in Lebanon to control it. Coordination of positions between the two allies and the drawing of common conclusions by Israel and the United States have been long overdue.

The changes in the National Security Council with the appointment of William Clark as secretary of the interior also call for high-level contacts. This council is an institution which has for years been sour [hamutz] on Israel. Now, with the reshuffle in the leadership which will apparently entail additional personnel changes in the lower echelons, ripe conditions have developed for strong strategic coordination. The main question which should guide such a discussion is to what extent are Israel and the United States prepared to shed their blood to maintain in Lebanon a situation in which control by Israel and the United States over matters is decreasing. The ground has been prepared in these two countries for a thorough discussion of this question, and an Arens visit may speed up this long-delayed discussion.

In addition, the U.S. Administration's plan to set up a task force in Jordan, which is in fact a miniature substitute for the late memorandum of understanding on strategic affairs concluded with Israel, is a very complex issue which requires contacts in the quiet and matter-of-fact style of Arens and not the exchange of messages and declarations. Only through such contacts, through the experienced view of the American in the Israeli Government, will Israel be able to receive a picture of the Washingtonian play of forces. He will have to return from Washington with answers to the following questions: Is there a point in struggling against this plan; does it have a serious chance of materializing at all; and what damage is it likely to cause. In addition, there might be one more question: Will there be a material benefit if there is no struggle over this issue, a benefit of the kind Israel enjoyed in the past when it refrained from fighting cases which did not justify a great deal of fuss?

Besides all this, on such a trip Arens will have a task which is not part of his job as defense minister. Israel, the expensive customer of the U.S. aid program, has lately been depicted in the United States in the same poor light in which it appears to its own citizens. This picture is of a country caught up in an economic whirlpool which probably likens it in U.S. public opinion to the South American model, thus giving rise for concern. One should not make light of the cumulative effect of neglecting to foster the image of the beggar in the eyes of the rich man.

The last time Israeli officials visited the United States and took advantage of the television opportunity granted them by such a visit for public relations purposes was during the joint trip of Shamir and Arens at the end of July. Then too, from the point of view of the communications media, Shamir was as good as not there. Tired and uncertain of himself, he used to send the defense minister in his place to any appearance he could possibly avoid. Arens carried out this task perfectly as usual.

A possible reason to postpone Arens' trip to the United States can be found in the lack of time for the government to properly discuss all the issues he will have to tackle there. However, this reason only underscores the need for his visit.

The government will not have time to thoroughly deal with the political issues pending between us and Washington in this period of economic chaos. What the defense minister will receive in Washington is feedback necessary for clarifications within the government; his visit will even prompt rapid clarifications within the government upon his return.

If Arens leaves for the United States in the coming weeks it wouldalso preclude the need to consider the unsuccessful idea now rolling in the corridors of the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry of postponing President Herzog's visit. The reason given for this is that it is better for the prime minister to precede the president in paying a visit to the United States so that he can hold a substantive discussion with the U.S. leadership on behalf of the new government. A change in the date of the president's visit, following a number of cancellations during Begin's term, is unnecessary.

A quick sortie by the defense minister will prevent this embarrassing complication. Chances are that this trip will be as, if not more, practical and thorough than that of the prime minister's. Shamir's two portfolios make Arens, to quite a large degree, Israel's foreign minister, especially when judging the nature of the foreign affairs currently on the agenda. There is nobody more suitable than him for this urgent mission now.

Jericho Mayor Proposes To Mediate With Jordan

TA201148 Tel Aviv Yoman Hashavu'a in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 10

["Exclusive" report on interview with Jericho Mayor Jamil Khalaf by Rafi Hason at the former's office; date not given]

[Text] "I call on the new Israeli prime minister, Mr Yitzhaq Shamir, to meet Husayn so that they can both sign a peace agreement. Thus, King Husayn and Shamir would be the heroes of peace and be registered in the annals of history," Jericho Mayor Jamil Khalaf stated in an interview with *Yoman Hashavu'a*.

The interview with Khalaf took place after his return to Israel from a visit to Amman. He explained: "I decided to convey a special message to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir through *Yoman Hashavu'a* because your paper is closer to the Israeli Government than any other paper. In this message, I am asking for a meeting with Shamir to receive his permission to be the mediator between the Israeli prime minister and King Husayn. Through you I also want to make it clear to Mr Shamir that King Husayn is ready to meet him.

"In order for this historic meeting to take place, Shamir must meet me because I am close to the king and to other Arab personalities close to the king, and I can convey a message that includes an official invitation to the king to make a working visit to Israel. I am confident — I have no doubt whatsoever — that

the king will accept the invitation. I am also convinced that the king will come to Jerusalem and that ultimately the two leaders will sign a peace treaty."

According to the mayor of Jericho, in his meetings with Arab leaders, King Husayn reveals great optimism about the possibility of reaching peace with Israel.

Jamil Khalaf also visited Jordan about 1 year ago at the head of a delegation of representatives from Jericho which conferred with the Jordanian king and expressed its support for him. He held other meetings with Amir Hasan, King Husayn's brother and the crown prince who, according to Khalaf, also mentioned Husayn's intentions to make an arrangement with Israel.

In the interview, Mayor Khalaf emphasized that "Israel and Jordan should solve the problem of the West Bank, but only through peaceful means. Israel and Jordan should hold direct talks without the mediation of any other element — either the United States or anybody else — so that both countries can once and for all arrive at an arrangement over the fate of the West Bank."

Question: Do the settlements constitute an obstacle to these talks?

Answer: The king's opinion of this matter is known to Israel. Israel must freeze the settlement drive immediately and hold relevant talks with Jordan over the future of the territories. It is not clear to me why Israel should establish settlements here precisely. I suggest that first of all Israel enter talks with Jordan and only after both sides arrive at an agreement would Israel be allowed to settle Jews in the West Bank. However, first of all there must be talks. This is our opinion.

Khalaf met Husayn over a month ago, but he claims that he postponed his announcement until after a new Israeli prime minister had been elected.

The interview with *Yoman Hashavu'a* took place in Khalaf's office. Khalaf gave us a letter and asked us to relay it to Prime Minister Shamir. In the letter, typed on paper bearing the official letterhead of the Jericho Municipality, Khalaf writes: "I send my warm greetings to your honor upon assuming the high post of Israeli prime minister. I hope that, with God's help, genuine peace will be reached in this region. On this occasion, I would also like to ask your honor to meet me personally."

Commander Says Jordanian Army Grown Stronger

TA201516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The commander of the Central Command, Ori Or, who has just concluded his assignment, has said the Jordanian Army has become stronger over the past few years. In an interview with our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Major General Or said the Jordan River was a closed border, and he considered that it would remain so for the foreseeable future. Jordan will continue to aim at a rapprochement with moderate elements in Judaea and Samaria and will not look kindly upon any military activity by terrorists from its territory.

Maj Gen Or thinks the solution to Judaea and Samaria is not military, but political. He said that the settlers in Judaea and Samaria were not breaking the law, and there was no reason to fear a Jewish underground. There are a few settlers who are extremists and they should be dealt with in accordance with directives by the defense minister and the government.

Ori Or has completed his assignment in the Central Command, and a senior post in the IDF is awaiting him. He is being replaced by Major General Amnon Shahaq Lipkin.

IDF Completes Winter Deployment in Lebanon

TA210544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The IDF has completed its winter deployment in Lebanon. The equipment taken out of the Ash-Shuf Mountains has already been installed along the new line on the Al-Awwali. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the new posts were built inside containers and can withstand temperatures well below freezing.

The soldiers in most of the units have already received their winter clothes. The price of a winter suit for each soldier is 50,000 shekels this year. Many kilometers of roads have been repaved in Lebanon and new roads paved along the Al-Awwali.

PFLP-Affiliated Underground Network Uncovered

TA201228 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 9

[Report by Buqi Na'e]

[Text] Members of a terrorist network connected to the PFLP were uncovered recently by security forces in the village of 'Asirah ash-Shamaliyah. The members of the organization were found in possession of seven guns and submachineguns, handgrenades, bombs, and thousands of bullets. The organization was headed by ('Asmad Suli), 35, who was released about a year ago after 7 years of imprisonment. He was sentenced then for terrorist activities.

(Suli), who was the oldest of the group, collected around him a group of 15 youths, 17 to 20 years old, trained them in the use of weapons and was the "brain" behind the actions they planned to carry out.

The military prosecution in Samaria, which yesterday presented three charge sheets against them at the military court in Nabulus, claims that they planned to boobytrap the cars of those people cooperating with Israel and planned to shoot Israeli military vehicles at one of the bends along the road near their village.

Bethlehem Mayor Seeks EEC Financial Aid
TA201102 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 4

[Report by Roni Shaqed]

[Excerpt] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj yesterday asked a British parliamentary delegation on a visit to his town to intercede with EEC elements to extend monetary aid to the territories' residents.

The delegation of British Members of Parliament from the Conservative Party, headed by Jim Lester, a member of Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, spoke to the Bethlehem mayor about the affairs of the territories. Ilyas Frayj reviewed the political situation in the territories and particularly stressed the difficult economic situation in the West Bank arising from the difficult situation in Israel and because of difficulties in receiving funds from Arab countries.

In their talk on the possibility of finding a solution to the Palestinian problem they were unanimous that in the present situation there is no real proposal that will lead to a solution of the problem.

UK Mideast Official To Visit Early November
TA201842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Richard Luce, the British under secretary for the Middle East, is to visit Israel at the beginning of next month. Diverging from usual British policy he will go on to Cairo and Amman at the same time.

At a news conference in London, he said British Middle East policy continues to be based on the Venice declaration, combining security for Israel with rights for the Palestinians, but he said he was particularly interested in renewing the dialogue with Israel.

Zimbabwe Forbids Entry To Israeli Citizens
TA201218 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 Oct 83 p 16

[Report by aviation affairs correspondent Dan Arkin]

[Excerpt] The Government of Zimbabwe, formerly Rhodesia, forbids those carrying an Israeli passport to cross its borders, even if it is only for a short transit stay.

A telegram was received a few days ago at the offices of the South African airlines saying that the Zimbabwe Government will not recognize even those visas that Israeli citizens already possess.

Protest Movement Members Establish Party
TA210539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Israel has a new political party. The Alternative Party was established last night by a group of some 100 activists from various protest movements in the country including Yesh Gvul, There Is a Limit, The Committee Against the War in Lebanon, and the SHELI Party. The Peace Now movement said that none of its members has taken part in the establishment of the new party.

Finance Minister Found Receptive to Settlements
TA201447 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1420 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Following a talk with the new finance minister, Minister Yuval Ne'eman believes that the budget for development and settlement in Judaea and Samaria will be increased. Today, 1 percent of the state's budget is allocated for settlement and development in Judaea and Samaria, and the Tehiya Movement wants it raised to 5 percent. We found understanding on the part of the new finance minister for this issue, Minister Ne'eman told our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar.

Poll Shows Rise for Alignment, Drop for Likud
TA210930 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 21 Oct 83 p 1

[DAHAF poll]

[Text] For the first time in 2 years, the Alignment is leading the Likud by six Knesset seats. This is the main finding of a public opinion poll that was conducted in the midst of the economic crisis. Nevertheless, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir still has a slight edge over Yitzhaq Navon as the most suitable candidate for the premiership. The poll was conducted by the DAHAF Institute and jointly commissioned by *Yedi'ot Aharonot* and *Koteret Rashit*. *It involved 1,177 interviewees comprising a* representative sample of the adult Jewish population.

The question posed was: If elections were held now, which party would you vote for?

The answers (quoted in Knesset seats) were as follows: Alignment — 52; Likud — 46; National Religious Party — 6; Agudat Yisra'el — 5; TAMI — 2; Shinuy — 2; Citizens' Rights Movement — 1; Tehiya — 2; RAKAH — 4.

Another question posed was: Who is best suited for the post of prime minister?

The answers (quoted in percentages) were as follows: Shamir — 21; Navon — 16; Rabin — 13; Peres — 9; Weizman — 5; Begin — 4; Levi — 3; Arens — 3; Sharon — 2; No opinion — 24.

Shekel Revalued Upward; New Trend Seen
TA201813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Due to large offers of foreign currency, the shekel was revalued today by 0.6 percent. The Bank of Israel has stated that it is content with this tendency, and it is believed that the large wave of demand for foreign currency has thus stopped.

Materials on Closing Session of CEEAC

Bongo Addresses Closing Session

AB201045 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Address by Gabonese President Omar Bongo to the closing session of the Economic Community of Central African States in Libreville on 18 October — recorded]

[Text] Heads of state and government and dear brothers, Mr Prime Minister, ministers and heads of delegations, Mr Acting Secretary General of the OAU, Mr Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, your excellencies, and comrade delegates: We have now come to the end of our deliberations. As leaders responsible for the destinies of our respective countries, we have just adopted and signed the treaty and the protocols creating the Economic Community of Central African States [CEEAC]. The results we have achieved constitute in my opinion the very clear expression of our desire to promote and develop cooperation between our countries. They also mark our determination to base this cooperation on the pertinent recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action. Finally, they constitute an essential stage in the creation of an African common market which is essential to the organization of dialogue and cooperation among developing countries.

There is no doubt that the date of 18 October 1983 will be engraved in golden letters in the history of our subregion because of the very great importance of the effects of the acts we have just accomplished, which opens for our countries prospects for a dynamic cooperation [words indistinct]. Thus, we have just given to the world the proof of our political maturity by (?uniting) our economies. Convinced that the consolidation of our unity depends on the strengthening of our cooperation, we have clearly demonstrated that what unites us is much more important than what divides us [words indistinct]. Heads of state and dear brothers, heads of delegations: The success achieved today by Africa is mainly your work; during the negotiations preceding the signing of this treaty, you demonstrated cohesion, understanding, and solidarity. I am happy to pay you the tribute you deserve.

Turning now to the future and convinced that together we will resolutely continue with our task, I should like to express the wish that our respective governments and parliaments will do everything to ensure that our community is definitively established. In this connection, we must ratify the treaty and deposit the instruments of ratification with the trustee government.

Realizing that our continent's future problems will be mainly economic, I wish long life to our community. May it be henceforth an instrument in the service of our countries' development and the well-being of our peoples. Heads of state and government and dear brothers, heads of delegations: As you are about to return to yor respective countries I should like to wish you a happy return on behalf of the Gabonese people and their party and government as well as in my own name. I declare closed the conference of heads of state and government in charge of signing the treaty creating the CEEAC. Long live the CEEAC! Long live international cooperation! Long live African unity! I thank you.

Angolan Delegate, Bongo Interviewed

AB201232 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Some leaders of delegations who signed the treaty creating the Economic Community of Central African States [CEEAC] this morning returned to their countries. The first to leave was President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea.

The Angolan delegate was interviewed before his departure.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, you will leave Gabon in a few moments. Yesterday, your country was the only one that did not sign the treaty creating the CEEAC. May we hope that Angola will join the organization in the future?

[Unidentified minister] We must say that Angola forms part of central Africa. Our decision not to sign the treaty was entirely due to the situation now prevailing in southern Angola, part of which is being occupied by South African troops. [end recording]

After the departure of the heads of state and of some heads of delegations, His Excellency President Omar Bongo granted a short interview to the press.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr President, the idea of the creation of the CEEAC was born 2 years ago. The organization has now been created. What are your comments?

[Bongo] [Words indistinct] The Gabonese Government is happy to have accomplished the task entrusted to it and I think that the accomplishment of this task constitutes an honor and pride for the Gabonese people.

[Reporter] Thank you, Mr President. [applause] [end recording]

Three delegations are still in Libreville. They are the Zairian, Rwandan, and Burundi delegations, which will leave tomorrow morning.

Reportage on End of Mano River Union Summit

Doe, Toure Comment

AB202015 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The 1-day conference of the leaders of the Mano River Union ended at the Unity Conference Center near Monrovia today. Addressing the conference, the Liberian leader, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, emphasized the need for agricultural development, particularly the development of forestry and fisheries. Dr Doe also called for improvement of the health needs of the people and the training of more personnel in the fields of forestry and agriculture if the union would serve as a viable organization in the subregion. Chairman Doe said the inclusion of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea into the intra-trade union agreement between Liberia and Sierra Leone should not have any political impact on the direction of commercial activities for the time being.

In remarks, the Guinean leader, Ahmed Sekou Toure, reminded his counterparts that the purpose of the Mano River Union was to foster socioeconomic advancement in the three countries. He said it was only through concerted efforts and active participation of the people that the objectvies of the union could be achieved. President Toure asked his colleagues to remain committed and dedicated to the objectives of the union.

Common Currency System Urged

AB202020 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure has called for the establishment of a common currency for member states of the Mano River Union. Such a monetary system, President Toure said, will be the first kind of economic identity of the three states. The Guinean leader made the statement at the Unity Conference Center in Virginia today. He said even though member states were conscious of the fact that the union does not exist in isolation, a common monetary system for the three states should be one that is typically African.

Meanwhile, President Toure says he is convinced that the Mano River Union will bring fruitful and rewarding benefits to the peoples of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia in the near future. President Toure is quoted as saying that during its 10-year existence, the Mano River Union has laid the foundation for a vigorous and viable socioeconomic development in the three member countries. President Toure was speaking at the Sprigg Payne Airfield in Monrovia, shortly before departing for Conakry after attending the summit of heads of state of the Union.

For his part, Dr Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone repeated his country's readiness to work for the development of the union. President Stevens said the Mano River Union is a concrete reality of African cooperation and unity. The two presidents left Monrovia this afternoon for home.

Leaders Make Final Comment

AB210955 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The Mano River Union cannot experience speedy growth, social progress, and cultural advancement without undertaking agricultural development. This observation was made by the Liberian leader, Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe, who said that about 75 percent of the labor force of any one member country of the union was engaged in agriculture, and said if the union is to remain an effective instrument for the subregion, it must emphasize agricultural development. The head of state was speaking yesterday at the Unity Conference Center in Virginia outside Monrovia, at the opening of the summit conference marking the 10th anniversary of the Mano River Union. The 1-day summit was also attended by the leaders of Guinea and Sierra Leone, whose countries are members of the union.

President Toure, for his part, called for the establishment of a common currency for member states of the Mano River Union. Such a monetary system,President Toure said, will be the first sign of the economic identity of the three states. President Toure explained that even though member states were conscious of the fact that the union does not exist in isolation, a common monetary system for the three states should be one that is typically African.

And President Stevens said that the Mano River Union has grown in strength to fulfill the objective for which it was founded. He said much has been achieved to translate in a positive and dramatic manner the desire to promote self-sustained reliance into further commonality of interest in the subregion. He said if the union assesses its activities for the past 10 years, there has been progress in the direction of inter-trade and economic cooperation between member states.

Meanwhile, the two leaders — Presidents Toure of Guinea and Stevens of Sierra Leone — left Monrovia yesterday. At the airport President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea said that he is convinced that the Mano River Union will bring fruitful and rewarding benefits to the peoples of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia in the near future. Mr Toure said during its 10 years of existence, the Mano River Union has laid the foundation for viable socioeconomic development in the three member countries. For his part, President Stevens of Sierra Leone reiterated his country's readiness to work for the development of the union. Dr Stevens said the Mano River Union is concrete reality of African cooperation and unity.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Talks with EEC's Gaston Thorn

LD201328 Rabat MAP in English 1206 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brussels Oct 20 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco left here Wednesday after a twenty-four hour working visit to Belgium that was highlighted by a meeting with King Baudouin. The monarch also met with the president of the European Communities Commission, Mr Gaston Thorn.

On Wednesday afternoon, King Hassan II received separately Belgian premier, Mr Wilfried Martens, and the deputy premier and justice minister, Mr Jean Gul before receiving the Arab ambassadors accredited in Belgium and the representatives of the Moroccan colony established in the countries of the Benelux (Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxembourg).

The sovereign also held a press conference that dealt with issues relating to Moroccan-EEC relations, the Middle East [words indistinct]. Earlier, King Hassan II [words indistinct] along with Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the European Communities Commission, a working session attended by members of the delegation accompanying the monarch and top officials from the European Community.

"I didn't come to talk about numbers", King Hassan II declared at the conclusion of the meetings on Wednesday, "but to ask the European Community to make an effort at changing our present relations, which are decreasing steadily."

According to a community source, talks focused on economic and political cooperation between Morocco and the European Community. From this point of view, added the same source, it is clear that the different issues relating to the future of economic and commercial relations between Morocco and Europe have been examined in the perspective of the EEC enlargement as well as the implementation of Morocco-EEC cooperation agreements.

The talks, underlined the source, also dealt with the Maghrebean integration for which Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia decided to set up a permanent Maghrebean group of coordination of relations with the European Community. For its part, the European Commission had decided to carry out a joint survey with its Maghrebean partners on the evolution of inter-Maghrebean exchanges and between the Maghreb and the twelve members of the community (the ten member countries plus Spain and Portugal) for the next twenty years.

According to the same source, the official visit of King Hassan II to the European Commission has provided the opportunity for a fruitful exchange of views concerning current international problems and notably the Middle East issue in the context of Arab unity and the Fes plan (a plan that was endorsed by Arab heads of state in Fes).

This visit, went on the same source, is a proof of the importance Morocco and the European Community grant to the deepening and improvement of their cooperation.

Hassan Press Conference on Sahara, PLO

LD201348 Rabat MAP in English 1232 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brussels, oct. 20 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco said "there are good reasons to believe and to think that the outcome of the referendum in the Sahara will be positive and in favour of Morocco." This certainty about the positive result of the referendum is even more strong given "the dilatory manoeuvers" aimed at hindering the implementation of the modalities of the consultation, the sovereign indicated to a press conference he held in Brussels on Wednesday at the end of his 24 hours visit to Belgium. King Hassan II affirmed that the organizing of the referendum is no longer in Morocco's hands and that it is up to the OAU implementation committee on the Sahara to organize the consultation, expressing Morocco's willingness to "withdraw from the game once the Organization of African Unity and the implementation committee set the date for holding the referendum."

About the goal of his visit to Belgium, the monarch said that it was mainly devoted to "visiting the European community in an attempt to [words indistinct] possible conditions, the contractual links and association ties existing between Morocco and the EEC."

As to Morocco's concern over the impact of the EEC enlargement (entry of Spain and Portugal into the European Community) on Moroccan economy, the monarch felt it necessary to come up with a formula likely to satisfy the European Community as a whole and the countries which are individually associated to it, otherwise, the disparity resulting from the diversity of the countries which are bound to the EEC, as well as the diversity of their productions might harm these countries and the EEC as well. Dealing with the situation of Moroccan workers in Belgium and the recent bill on the limitation of immigration in this country, King Hassan II said he was against illicit immigration, but that the Belgian Government should legalize the situation of the workers who had spent a probatory term in the hosting country. He estimated in this respect that immigration might be partly averted by "a European global assistance to associated countries".

A question on the crisis within the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the future of the Fes peace plan, King Hassan II underlined that the crisis within the PLO is an internal problem to the Palestinian organization and not a problem between the PLO and the Arab community. He added that "nobody has so far questioned the Fes plan, because he who would do it would set the whole Islamic world against himself, for all the resolutions of the Fes summit were unanimously endorsed."

More on Press Conference

LD201557 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] King Hassan II yesterday evening returned to Paris from Brussels at the end of his working visit to Belgium during which he held talks with the Belgian monarch, King Baudouin, and a number of Belgian officials. He also presided over a meeting with EEC officials. This morning, negotiations between

the Moroccan and European sides began with a view to determining the scope of cooperation between them in light of Spain's and Portugal's upcoming entry into the EEC.

The king concluded his visit to Brussels with a press conference there yesterday afternoon. During the press conference, the king reviewed relations between Morocco and the EEC in light of the expansion of the horizons of the EEC, the conditions of the Moroccan workers in Belgium, the future of Moroccan communities abroad, and the situation in northwest Africa in addition to the situation in the Middle East.

[Unidentified Correspondent] I believe, your majesty, that your visit to Belgium has two aspects: The first is connected with Morocco's relations with the European Community, and the contacts you have had with the officials responsible for European institutions. The second is connected with Moroccan-Belgian relations. As regards the former, I believe that your country faces some difficulties as a result of the entry of Portugal and Spain into the EEC. What do you have to say about this after the talks you have held with the EEC chief Gaston Thorn?

[King Hassan] At present, there are no real difficulties, but probable difficulties. Spain and Portugal have not yet joined the EEC. Even if they do not join, the widening of the imports law and the multiplicity of the countries with which the EEC has concluded agreements and the diversity of these countries' industrial and agricultural produce, besides their geographic positions, have harmed all instead of benefitting all in the medium-term future. They will harm the EEC itself. Hence a formula must be found to satisfy the EEC and all the countires joining it in an individual capacity.

[Correspondent] Is it not true that the EEC now impedes the economic development of your country?

[Hassan] Yes. It does constitute an obstacle if we take into consideration the fact that Morocco imports all its needs with the exception of petroleum and [word indistinct] products from the EEC. It would even have imported oil from the EEC had it been producing it.

Instead of acting in a comprehensive manner to help Morocco, sometimes, through investments within the framework of integration, the EEC does not do so at a time when we have bilateral agreement with the EEC member countries. We do not have the same weight as the European Community in matters of agricultural, industrial, and other specialized or combined projects. I believe this is lacking in cooperation between us and the EEC.

[Correspondent] Your majesty, how do you view the development of the settlement of the Palestine question which has become more intricate due to the conflict within the PLO? In this regard, what is the fate of the peace plan sponsored by the Fes summit conference, the preparation for which your majesty participated in personally?

[Hassan] We have not heard or read until now that the opposing side in the PLO has objected to the Fes summit resolutions. The PLO problem is an internal one. There is no problem between the PLO and the Arab bloc. The PLO might have a problem with this country or that, but it has not cast any doubts on the Fes resolutions. We do not know yet how the problem will develop and we are not in a position to predict this.

We are facing a tragic situation which hurts us. In my capacity as an Arab, I do not feel hurt only for humanitarian reasons but also for reasons of truthfulness and seriousness.

Frankly, right now I do not know who will rise and who will fall for good. So far, nobody has shown any objection to the Fes summit resolutions. Anyone who does so will be turning his back on the Arab League since these resolutions were adopted unanimously.

[Correspondent] How do you view the development of the Sahara problem settlement?

[Hassan] I delivered a speech at the United Nations which should rule out any misunderstanding. I want the plebiscite and I have declared that I shall be bound by the results whatever they may be. But you may ask: Why did you agree to the plebiscite as long as you knew that it would favor Morocco? This was never my aim.

It was difficult for me and for my people to accept the plebiscite and to ask the Moroccans whether they want to be Moroccans. But in face of insistence by our African brothers and in face of the danger which the Moroccan stance could cause to the OAU — which was in the right in one way or another.

Since this is not the only problem facing the OAU and could blow it up — we preferred to abandon our sensitivity about our historical legitimate rights. As I was confident of the will of the national Saharan movements even before the plebiscite, then surely I would not be committing suicide by accepting the plebiscite. Even if I wanted to, I could not do so lest all of Morocco be sacrificed.

Thus there are numerous reasons that make me believe that the results of the plebiscite will be positive. What makes me even more convinced that the plebiscite will be in favor of Morocco are the maneuvers being made to prevent the arrangements for holding the plebiscite from being made. There is some procrastination in regard to holding the plebiscite.

[Correspondent] A few months ago, you met with President Chadli Bendjedid, but since then no progress has been made.

[Hassan] President Chadli Bendjedid is not responsible for the organization of the plebiscite which is no longer in our hands. Algeria is not a member of the African follow-up committee. The committee should come and organize the plebiscite. Had matters depended on me, I would have held it a long time ago. But Morocco is not the one organizing the plebiscite materially.

It is true that Morocco will be providing the cars and the telex machines, but the arbiters who will judge the results of the plebiscite and the observers who will decide whether it is a sound and free plebiscite will be OAU and UN observers. As regards us, we will withdraw as soon as the OAU and the follow-up committee decide to hold the plebiscite and fix a date for it.

SUDAN

President Addresses Public Gathering 20 Oct

JN201830 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Kusti, Sudan, Oct 20 (SUNA) President Ja'far Numayri today addressed a public gathering in the main White Nile port here after chairing the final session of the White and Blue Niles agricultural corporations conference. In his address Numayri noted the greatness of the Sudanese people when they rose and defeated the colonists with faith alone in the White Nile. He said the White Nile citizens were the first heralds of the May revolution's victories and became owners of the land to which they were serfs. Victories then began to tell until the greatest projects of our pride multiplied, he added. The revolution's success has rekindled illusions of power and possession in the hearts of the malicious who still dream of the patronage era and collude with the enemy of the state and with the devil against their kins and country, Numayri went on. Numayri continued that these opportunists have lost their sense of reality and failed to see that real power is in the hands of the people. The people utter the final word.

Having reached this level of awareness our people could not but refuse to return to periods of servitude, he affirmed.

The president further affirmed the revolution will proceed in the path of achievement in the face of challenges by its enemies. It will never cease to call for more production because it is a revolution of the workers and is therefore tilted towards the workers, Numaryi said, adding that the revolution's concern for farmers stems from the importance of agriculture for the Sudan. He said the world is holding Sudan aloft and has pinned its hopes on the Sudan as a world basket to feed millions of humanity facing acute food shortages.

Foreign Minister on PLO, Lebanese Affairs

JN201916 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Oct (INA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has condemned the Syrian and Libyan regimes' interference in the PLO's affairs. In reply to a SUNA question, Mubarak said that the PLO should be kept away from any axes or foreign influence, be it Arab or non-Arab. He added that the Syrian and Libyan regimes want to impose their influence on the PLO, and said: Sudan does not at all accept this because it is against the aim for which the PLO is working. The foreign minister said that Syria and Libya support Iran against Iraq. He then wondered if the Syrian and Libyan regimes want to drag the PLO into adopting a similar stand and thus lose its position within the Arab nation.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, he said that Sudan supports any decision by the legitimate Lebanese Government and condemns any interference in the decisions adopted by the Lebanese Government or Chamber of Deputies. He added that Israel should first of all withdraw from Lebanon, after which, all foreign forces whose presence is not desired by the legitimate government should withdraw. He said that this withdrawal should take place before holding a national dialogue so that the warring factions coluld find an appropriate climate to reach the required agreement.

On Reconciliation in Chad

JN201941 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1757 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Oct (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has stressed that Sudan welcomes the Chadian Government's announcement that it is ready to negotiate with the other parties on the Chadian problem. In an interview with SUNA, the foreign minister said that Sudan announced from the beginning of the Chadian problem the need for a national reconciliation, because this national reconciliation will achieve stability for Chad, or any other state, that will enable it to acheive the required development and to rebuild what the war has damaged.

The foreign minister added: This is what Sudan is calling for regarding the African states which could face problems such as the Chadian one. He said: When Sudan calls for the achievement of Chad's national reconciliation, it also calls for this in the interest of Chad. However, this reconciliation must be achieved without foreign interference in order to be a real reconciliation in the interest of Chad and the Chadian people. He added that Sudan has strongly stood against the Libyan interference in Chad, proceeding from its historical policy which is based on its belief in the principle of nonintervention in others' affairs.

The foreign minister said: Sudan believes that if Chad is left alone, it would be able to settle its problem. He said: Because Libya has ambitions in Chad and other states, it has interfered in Chad's domestic affairs. He added that Sudan has called and is calling for the need to keep Libya away from Chad. He pointed out that Libya, which interferes in the affairs of many African states, has flagrantly interferred in Chad's domestic affairs. The foreign minister pointed out that the current situation in Chad is very good and that President Hissein Habre heads a government which has the position and legitimate right to acheive peace in Chad. He pointed out that the Chadian Government realizes the need for a national reconciliation. He said that this proves that it is confident in the ability and stability that it enjoys. He said that the other Chadians must accept the offer of national reconciliation, which the legitimate government has presented, to achieve stability in Chad.

Economic Talks Begin With Romania 19 Oct

JN201303 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Oct (SUNA) — The joint Sudanese- Romanian ministerial committee began its work this morning under Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur, Sudanese minister of finance and economic planning, and Iosif Banc, member of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] Central Committee. At the beginning of the meeting, Minister Mansur welcomed Banc and his delegation, stressing Sudan's desire to strengthen its developing relations with Romania. He noted that the two countries' relations have experienced great growth under the leadership of Presidents Numayri and Ceausescu. He explained that impor-

tant developments in the two countries' economic cooperation have taken place following the committee's meeting in Bucharest last year. He said that the stroage facilities' project in Port Sudan and Hayya in the eastern region is near completion, and that the technical studies for a similar project in Shajarah in Khartoum have been completed.

Mansur added that Sudan will take into consideration the Romanian side's desire to participate in the installation of the pipeline in cooperation with the contractor who won the tender. The minister expressed appreciation to the Romanian side for implementing an agreement to supply the National Electricity Authority with transformers, and hoped that the other part of the transformers will be completed in this year's protocol.

Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur explained that the Sudanese side wants to include several projects in the new protocol in order to develop the water network and the textile project in Khartoum. He noted that Sudan's financial status does not allow it to begin a dairy project in Sudan. The minister praised the progress the talks acheived in the areas of the capital's roads and support for the telecommunications authority. Concluding his speech, Mansur called for bolstering cooperation between the two countries in various fields in order to reach the level of the developing Sudanese-Romanian political relations.

Banc spoke in this meeting, noting that the Numayri-Ceausescu summit meetings in 1972, 1979, and 1982 promoted relations between the two countries and drew up a correct course for them, which must be strengthened through several action programs. He explained Romania's achievements in the political, economic, and social fields under the RCP leadership, and affirmed that his country is adopting a foreign policy that is hostile to colonialism and neo-colonialism as well as to the policies of hegemony, which have imposed tense circumstances and an irrational arms race on the world. He said that the superpowers must prohibit forces and threats to use it, and must demand the achievement of just peace in the Middle East that ensures the establishment of an independent state for the Palestinian people.

Banc said: The last years have witnessed growth in the two countries' trade exchange from $14 to 40 million per year. Countracts worth $75.2 million have been signed for the years 1982-1983, of which $45.6 million have been implmented. Banc called for completing the financial procedures related to the warehouses for Port Sudan and Hayya, for opening the letters of credit necessary for the storage facilities projects in Shajarah in Khartoum, and hastening in the negotiations in the spheres of energy and telecommunications. Banc expressed the hope that the trade exchange between the two countries will be promoted, indicating that his country wishes to sign a contract during this visit to import 5,000 tons of Sudanese cotton during 1984. The joint committee will continue its work this evening in order to draw up the new trade protocol draft, which will be signed by Presidents Numayri and Ceausescu. The Romanian delegation is compromised of 13 high-ranking officials from various ministries; and the Sudanese delegation is compromised of representatives from the Ministeries of Finance and Economic Planning; Energy and Mining; Transportation and Communications; Cooperation, Commerce, and Supply; Education and Guidance; Agriculture and Irrigation; and Industry.

LE MONDE Views South Sudan Rebel Group

PM200802 Paris Le Monde in French 6 Oct 83 p 5

[Part III of Jean Gueyras dispatch: "Sudan in Desperate Need of Stability; III — The Anyanya-II Guerrillas"]

[Text] Khartoum — "The division of Sudan into three regions was inevitable. It will put an end once and for all to the hegemony which the Dinkas were trying to impose on all Sudan's southern provinces." Sitting in his vice president's office, Mr Joseph Lagu, former chief of the Anyanyas, had difficulty in disguising his amused satisfaction each time he mentioned the downfall of Mr Abel Alier, the man who has always been his rival and who, he said, "will now have all the time he wants to concern himself with the development of Bahr al-Ghazal and Upper Nile, instead of trying to impose Dinka rule in Equatoria." Mr Algu, who comes from the small Equatorial tribe of the Mahdis, had never accepted the position which the Dinkas of Bahr al-Ghazal, who form the biggest autonomous ethnic group in Sudan, and their allies the Nyers and Shilluks of Upper Nile, had eventually occupied in Juba, the capital of the former unified southern region.

The battle between the "partitionists" and "antipartitionists" which has characterized the south's political life for 3 years ended 5 June when President Numayri decided on his own authority to divide the south into three independent regions. The "antipartitionists" immediately protested that this was high-handed, stating that the partition was not only anticonstitutional, but also contrary to the Addis Ababa agreement which had ended 17 years of civil war between the Muslim north and the animist or Christian south in 1972.

There is no possible doubt: Article 4 of the Addis Ababa agreement stipulates that the "provinces of Bahr al-Ghazal, Equatoria, and Upper Nile form an autonomous region within the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, which will be known by the name of the southern region." It is true that Article 2 of this same agreement makes provision for possible changes, but these must be approved by the Khartoum Parliament and subsequently confirmed by a people's referendum held in Sudan's three southern provinces. At the end of 1981 President Numayri, exasperated by the interminable quarrels on the subject of the south's "partition," had dissolved the Juba regional government which was then led by Mr Abel Alier, leader of those in favor of the south's unity and now relegated to the obscure post of minister of public works.

At that time President Numaryi had given General Qasmallah 'Abdallah Rasses, chief of the military academy, the job of preparing within 6 months a referendum on the south's future. That vote, desired by some and feared by others, never took place, despite President Numayri's desire to abide strictly by the constitutional process laid down by the Addis Ababa agreement of which he was the guarantor. So why did he suddenly change his mind? Most of the prominent politicians in Khartoum whom we were able to question on this subject state that it was Vice President Lagu, leader of the little Equatorial tribes, who finally persuaded Mr Numayri that the best means of wiping out the insidious insurrection, which had been emerging in the south since the beginning of the year, was to "carve up" the region in

order to prevent the rebellion from spreading. "In short, the aim is once again to divide and rule," the "antipartitionists" say,and they accuse Mr Lagu of betraying his ideals with the aim of satisfying his personal ambitions.

The partition of the south, which was immediately proclaimed, revived the insurrectional movement in the two provinces of Bahr al-Ghazal and Upper Nile, which are particularly affected by the rebellion. Despite the relative isolatin in which the south is kept, the news reaching Khartoum is increasingly alarming. Desertions from the army are increasing; some soldiers are leaving to join the Anyanya-II guerrillas after killing their northern officers; and there are a growing number of attacks on storekeepers, most of whom are Muslims from the north. Under the terms of the Addis Ababa agreement, the Sudanese Army stationed in the south should comprise nearly 12,000 men, half of whom should be southerners. This proportion has never been respected and at the present time the most optimistic assessments put the number of southern soldiers still at their posts at around 2,000, whereas the number of soldiers sent as reinforcements from the north is constantly increasing.

"Everywhere and Nowhere"

The wildest rumors are circulating about the "exploits" of Anyanya-II, whose guerrillas are "everywhere and nowhere." According to the account of a top international official who lived for a long time in Wau, the inhabitants of Bahr al-Ghazal's capital have received the order not to leave the city without permission from the security forces. The nights are disturbed by the noise of distant gunfire. "They are cattle thieves we are pursuing," according to the authorities, for whom the members of Anyanya-II are merely "gangsters."

It is true that cattle stealing is frequent, but most cases are "military operations" intended to feed the guerrillas who act with impunity, especially because the auxiliaries with the job of maintaining order are themselves gradually being won over to the rebellion and in any case only have a motley collection of old weapons, whereas the rebels seem to have modern weapons.

The first Anyanya-II guerrilla groups, so called to distinguish them from the Anyanya-I guerrillas, who have never completely disappeared, were formed toward the end of 1982 when, following a measure whose incredible clumsiness is now recognized even by Mr Lagu's supporters, the Khartoum military tried to implement the policy of "troop rotation" between the north and the south "to seal the country's ethnic unity." In fact the aim of the operation was to remove from the south the native soldiers who were deemed rather unreliable.

The first troops to come from the north were received with gunfire by the soldiers in the local garrisons, who then scattered. The southern soldiers, animists and Christians — the churches are very understanding on this point — often have two or three wives who help them in the agricultural and stockraising work which they are obliged to carry out in order to survive. Indeed their poor wages do not enable them to meet the needs of their families, which are usually large. Their transfer to the north would, therefore, be a personal tragedy for them.

The Bor and Pibor Mutiny

The mutiny of the Bor and Pibor garrisons in May was the most serious revolt against the "rotation" policy because the number of mutineers was about equal to a battalion. It took the Khartoum troops more than a week to put down the uprising, and the city of Bor, which had more than 30,000 inhabitants before that affair, is now no more than a "ghost city," the majority of the population having preferred to join the guerrillas in the neighboring forests.

The great failure of the Addis Ababa agreement was its inability to break down the wall of distrust which separates the south from the north and the almost instinctive hatred which the southern tribes have for the "Arab settlers" from the north. The behavior of the Khartoum leaders, which some people have no hesitation in describing as "colonialist," has aggravated that feeling. For instance, as soon as it became clear that the oil discovered in Bentiu in the south could be exploited on a commercial basis, the Khartoum Parliament surreptitiously passed a law changing the borders to include the oil region in the north's territory. It is true that that law was subsequently annulled, but it left a mark on people's minds.

The southerners complain about their region's chronic underdevelopment and about the fact that the promises made immediately after the Addis Ababa agreement to put an end to this situation were not respected. Khartoum replies that considerable sums have in fact been allocated to the south, but that they have never reached their destination because of the "incredible corruption" which reigns in the south's political class. However, they forget to add that this corruption is deliberately maintained by the north's leaders, who think they can solve all problems by "buying" politicians. Similarly the "thirst for power," which characterizes a large number of southern politicians, explains some "miraculous conversions." For instance, Mr Lawrence Wol Wol, who was appointed governor of the new Bahr al-Ghazal region in June, had condemned the policy of "partitioning" the south as "unviable" 1 month before.

But, as a general rule, even if the Dinka politicians often become involved in affairs of corruption, which do not have the same significance in southern Sudan as elsewhere, they are not prepared to allow themselves to be "bought" by Khartoum. The Dinkas, who are proud to the point of arrogance, extremely hard workers, and deeply attached to their land, think that the south is an indivisible whole which belongs to them and consequently think they have as much right over the Province of Equatoria as the ethnic groups which inhabit that region.

Under the terms of the south's partition into three separate regions, all the members of the southern ethnic groups have to return to the regions where they are in the majority. "This to-ing and fro-ing between the three new southern regions," a top Dinka official told us, "will create a real atmosphere of civil war among the southern tribes. The aim is to prevent a north-south war by creating interminable quarrels among the southern ethnic groups. We will not fall into this trap. We do not want a trial of strength with the north, but we are determined to maintain the south's unity and integrity at all costs. Moreover, we think that Equatoria's small ethnic groups, at present deceived by Vice

President Lagu, share our opinion. The Equatoria region has hitherto been protected from the spread of the rebellion. But how long will it be able to keep apart from a movement to which no southerner can be indifferent?"

A New Civil War?

All the conditions exist for a new civil war. Anyanya-II's power cannot be underestimated. Most of the military who have joined it, taking their arms with them, are professional soldiers, whereas the 1955 civil war had been fought by simple peasants from the bush without any military experience. In addition, the backbone of the new rebellion is formed by the powerful Nile tribes, which form more than half of the southern population, whereas the 1955 conflict was only based on the small Equatoria tribes.

Although the new rebels have not gone so far as to declare open war on the north, for instance, by occupying the big conurbations of Bahr al-Ghazal and Upper Nile — which they would now be capable of doing — they have many ways of exerting pressure to obtain satisfaction for their unitary and autonomist demands. Anyanya-II has hitherto never attacked the Jonglei Canal Works, although some of the guerrillas are convinced that this gigantic enterprise primarily serves the interests of the Muslims in northern Sudan and Egypt — the main beneficiaries of the increase in the Nile's flow which will result from the draining of the southern marshes. Similarly they do not see how, without an agreement which would grant them substantial advantages, they could permit the construction of the oil pipeline which will carry black gold from Bentiu to Marsa-Numayri through territory completley controlled by the insurgents.

Those who envisage the south's secession are at present a small minority, but, as an intellectual renowned for his moderation told us, "Until recently we had hoped that an agreement with the Khartoum authorities was still possible. The south's partition has shattered all our hopes. It is as if they want to push us into secession." Aside from the lack of understanding which the northern leaders show, one of the reasons for despair is the repression which has begun to fall on the supporters of the united south. Former Information Minister Bona Malwal, one of the south's most respected leaders, has been kept under strict arrest since May in the public security offices just a few steps away from the French Embassy. He is one of the founders of the English monthly *Sudanow*, one of the few publications which you can still read in Sudan without dying of boredom, and is one of the fiercest opponents of the partition policy which, according to him, irremediably jeopardizes the cooperation which was established between the south and the north after the Addis Ababa agreement. Other less fortunate southern intellectuals and militants are rotting in the infamous Kobar prison in Khartoum. A "secessionist" whom we were able to meet in Khartoum thinks that coexistence with the north is no longer possible even if the present regime disappears. "They are all Arabs," he said bitterly. For him an "entirely independent" south is not unrealistic. "All the conditions exist," he said, "for the formation of an independent state in the south — a common land, the same language, adequate natural resources, and a possible outlet to the sea though Mombasa. What we sorely lack is international support. We are prepared to form an alliance with all those prepared to support us, even with Israel, the USSR, or the devil."

For the time being the only support which the rebels seem to have comes from neighboring Ethiopia, where they have training camps. What is certain is that some of the Bor and Pibor mutineers took refuge in Ethiopia and that the secessionist commando group,describing itself as the "Southern Sudanese Liberation Front," which on 28 June kidnapped five international officials in the Boma mountain region, had come from Ethiopia.

Relations between Khartoum and Addis Ababa are at an all-time low, but the Sudanese are trying to be as accomodating as possible towards the Ethiopians. They know that the latter cannot go too far in their support for the Anayanya-II rebels without exposing themselves to countermeasures from Sudan which already supplies considerable aid to the Eritrean fighters.

Nonetheless, the threat of a civil war is taken seriously in Khartoum and that explains why the Sudanese leaders have adopted a "low profile" with regard to the Chad conflict. Priority is now being given to the southern front. A large-scale military operation is virtually impossible in view of the size of the southern provinces. In addition, the Sudanese economy, already in difficulties, would find it difficult to cope with such an adventure.

The Sudanese Army, for its part, seems divided on the south's future, and some officers who were recently sacked apparently think that problem can only be solved by political negotiations. There is already talk in Khartoum of a possible U.S. mediation between the central government and the southern rebels to avert the worst.

TUNISIA

Minister Sayah Receives USSR's V.F. Mordvinov

PM191427 Tunis L'Action in French 12 Oct 83 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Identifying New Forms of Cooperation"]

[Text] Public Works Minister Mohamed Sayah had a meeting late yesterday morning with Mr Vladimir Fedorovich Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, in the presence of Mr Ahmed ben and USSR Ambassador in Tunis Mr Vsevolod Kizichenko. Mr Sayah stressed President Bourguiba's desire to develop cooperation with the USSR, specifying that the Joumine dam is the result of fruitful cooperation between the USSR and Tunisia.

The minister stressed the need to identify new forms of cooperation in order to give new impetus to Tunisian-Soviet relations. Mr Mordvinov, for his part, expressed his country's determination to strengthen Tunisian-Soviet cooperation. In this connection he said that the Joumine dam will be followed by other hydraulic engineering works which will be carried out with the USSR's help.

It should be noted that the ceremony to open the Joumine dam will take place in the next few days in the presence of Mr Ryabov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who arrives in Tunis today.

Mzali Receives Mordvinov

PM191355 Tunis L'Action in French 14 Oct 83 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Mr Mohamed Mzali Receives Deputy Chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations"]

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali had . . meeting at the Kasbah government palace yesterday afternoon with Mr Vladimir Fedorovich Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who said after the meeting that he had discussed with Mr Mzali a number of questions relating to bilateral cooperation in various economic, technical, and cultural spheres. Mr Mordvinov emphasized the Tunisian and Soviet desire to develop and extend that cooperation, stressing that the two countries have taken a great step in that direction, especially in the construction of dams, the execution of irrigation projects, and the development of water resources.

He added that he fully supported the prime minister's remarks and directives on the strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the interest of development and to safeguard peace and security in the world.

The meeting was attended by Public Works Minister Mohamed Sayah and Mr Ahmed Ben Arfa, secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry for International Cooperation, and the two countries' ambassadors.

Bahraini Prime Minister Arrives 20 Oct

LD210604 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpt] A dear Arab guest arrived in Tunis today. He is Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman al Khalifah, the prime minister of the state of Bahrain, who is on an official visit to Tunisia at the invitation of his Tunisian counterpart, Mohamed Mzali. His plane landed at the Tunis-Carthage airport at 1430 local time. He was welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, presidential personal adviser Habib Bourguiba Jr, Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, a number of Political Bureau and government members, and the Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi. Also present were members of the political corps in Tunisia.

Mzali Talks With Algerian Minister Brahimi

LD201428 Algiers APS in English 1106 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Tunis, 20-10-83 (APS) — The first day of the official visit in Tunis of Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi, C.C. member, minister of planning and land improvement, was marked yesterday by talks he had with the Tunisian premier, Mr Mohamed Mzali, as well as high officials. At the end of talks, Mr Brahimi pointed out in a declaration wide prospects of Algero-Tunisian cooperation in the field of planning and this thanks to orientations clearly defined by Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and Habib Bourguiba, as well as premiers of the two countries. On another turn, Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi expressed his optimism as to talks he had with the Tunisian head of government. Talks centered on a certain number of projects which will be achieved in a near future, and which enabled the situation of the Algero-Tunisian cooperation in a Maghrebin context, a cooperation which is registered in the frame of a strategic vision of the Great Arab Maghreb, he declared.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Speeches in North Korea Reported

Pyongyang Banquet Speech

SK171758 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1658 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Pyongyang October 17 (KCNA) — Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia, chairman of the Commission for Organising the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia and commander-in-chief of the revolutionary Army of Socialist Ethiopia, made a speech at a banquet arranged by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Follows his speech:

Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Worker's Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, comrades,

At the very outset, I would like to express, on behalf of the people and Government of Socialist Ethiopia, the comrades accompanying me and on my own behalf, deep appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us by the Korean people and government, specially by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, from the very moment of our arrival in this beautiful and great country. We take it as a confirmation of revolutionary solidarity and support of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the people of Socialist Ethiopia and their revolutions.

It is also with great pleasure that I express my appreciation for the generous remarks made this evening by Comrade President Kim Il-song with regard to revolutionary ethiopia and its people. Such sentiments can only emerge from genuine friendship.

While Democratic Korea and revolutionary Ethiopia are geographically very far from each other, the number of Ethiopians who are well acquainted with the history, culture, the anti-imperialist struggle and stand of the Korean people are quite considerable. The friendly relations between Ethiopia and Democratic Korea which has developed as a result of the opportunities created by the advent of the Ethiopian revolution has enabled us to be more closely acquainted. Although this is our first visit, we believe it would help lay a strong foundation for strengthening the relations and co-operation between our two countries, as well as broaden and deepen their friendship and solidarity to their mutual desire.

By crushing colonialist and imperialist invasion and encirclement, particularly those of Japanese militarists and American imperialism, the heroic and freedom-loving people of Korea, under the leadership of its beloved revolutionary leader, Comrade Kim Il-song, has registered an exemplary history of struggle worth emulating by others.

Courageous leadership and the arduous efforts of its people have enabled Democratic Korea to achieve a high level of political, economic, social and cultural development by freeing itself from imperialist oppression and exploitation as well as backwardness. Its efforts to build socialism have produced the material and spiritual conditions for its people who are proceeding along the path towards communism. This in itself is an exemplary achievement for other developing countries.

Comrade Kim Il-song, as you may recall, the people of Ethiopia have, over the centuries, waged a bitter struggle against invaders, expansionists, colonialists and imperialists, thereby preserving their national independence, unity and honour. However, oppression and exploitation under the yoke of an archaic feudal system and neo- colonialism has relegated them to hunger, disease, ignorance and backwardness.

Nevertheless, as the downfall of exploiters and the victory of the oppressed is a fact of history, it is now nine years since the explosion of the 1974 revolution shattered the feudo-bourgeois order.

Having demolished the reactionary order, the Ethiopian people has won for itself considerable democratic rights. As a result of the nationalization and transfer of rural land to public ownership, 85 percent of the peasantry, who were landless tenants, are now owners of the land they till and sole beneficiaries of their labour. They have laid a solid basis for building socialism in the rural areas by organizing themselves in producers associations and collective co-operatives.

Following the nationalization of urban land and extra houses, the means of production, as well as financial and insurance institutions, Ethiopian workers have freed themselves from oppression and exploitation, thereby becoming full participants in the development of the country and beneficiaries of the revolution.

With the view to intensifying the revolutionary struggle, defending the gains of the revolution and to heightening their political consciousness through Marxism-Leninism the broad masses of Ethiopia have organized themselves in various mass organisations and professional associations. Accordingly, urban dwellers, farmers, the youth, women and workers have been organized in their respective associations.

Having substantially accomplished our program of national democratic revolution, at the present we are exerting every effort to lay the material and technical bases for our transition to socialism. We have launched a multi-faceted economic and cultural reconstruction campaign to increase production, to improve the standard of living of the people, and to rehabilitate those who have been displaced as a result of the class struggle and the various natural and man made calamities — in short, to build our national economy. Convinced as we are that skilled manpower is the most essential component for economic construction, we have, as a first step, undertaken a vigorous campaign to emancipate the masses from backward cultural habits and customs, thus reducing illiteracy from 93 percent to 46 percent over a period of five years.

It is obvious to everyone that a vanguard party with strong discipline, clear direction and organizational structure plays a decisive role in leading the struggle waged to construct a socialist system. Owing to the absence of such a vanguard party at the eruption of our revolution, the responsibility of leading the struggle was entrusted to the revolutionary government. Since the leadership of a Marxist-Leninist party is imperative to achieve our objectives, the necessary preconditions are now finalized for the formation of the party.

Comrade President Kim Il-song, although the objective of the Ethiopian revolution is to ensure the freedom and equality of the broad masses, numerous obstacles have confronted us ever since the eruption of our revolution.

As it is well-known, reactionary and counterrevolutionary forces leave no stone unturned to regain power and restore their exploitative system. This was precisely the case in Ethiopia. counterrevolutionary and reactionary forces, aided and abetted by international imperialism, unleashed their vicious assault on our unity and revolution, thereby causing enormous damage to life and property.

Comrade President Kim Il-song, the history of revolutionary Ethiopia and that of Democratic Korea bear several similarities. Both countries were targets of aggression and encirclement by external forces.

The peoples of the two countries heroically repulsed invaders and colonialists, thereby preserving their independence. Both countries maintain a common stand in struggling to build a just socio-economic order based on a strong anti-imperialist policy, thereby ensuring the social progress of peoples in the stable conditions of peace.

This historical similarity constitutes a strong basis for the relations between the two countries. As a result of their socialist policy, People's Korea and revolutionary Ethiopia maintain a common stand on major and urgent international issues.

As both countries stand for peace, justice, equality and freedom, inviolability of territorial integrity, non interference in the internal affairs of others, peace and proletarian internationalism, their relations are based on firm ground.

As members of the non-aligned movement, they struggle for the preservation of world peace and the creation among states of healthy relations based on freedom and equality.

On the other hand, as we assess the current international situation, we find ourselves confronted with issues of great concern. While the picture reveals a continuing struggle between the two camps, namely, supporters of the reactionary system, on the one hand, and revolutionaries on the other, the danger posed to world peace as a result of the increasingly arrogant, belligerent and provocative policy of imperialism is graver today than ever before.

Compelled to extricate itself from the world-wide economic and political crisis and in the hope of prolonging its life span, international imperialism is jeopardizing world peace and posing an obstacle to the progress of peoples. Its military interventions in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Central and Latin America and other regions have been transformed from covert to overt activities.

With the view to strangulating the struggle of the people in southern Africa, it has chosen to collude with the racist Pretoria regime to which it renders military and economic support, thus entrenching the odious system of apartheid. As a result, Namibia's independence has, time and again, been delayed directly and indirectly, it encourages South Africa's repeated raids on the frontline states.

Thus, in order to eradicate imperialist conspiracies and the odious system of apartheid, it is vital that peace-loving forces should step-up their support, both qualitatively and quantitatively, to the Namibian and South African peoples who are struggling for their national liberation and independence.

Imperialism is, likewise, busy aggravating minor differences among developing nations with the view to undermining their sense of unity and leading them into unnecessary bloodshed. For example, it has manipulated the situation in Chad and Western Sahara with the view to undermining our regional organization.

Everyone recognizes that the problems in both countries are inherited from colonialism. not only has the Organization of African Unity exerted considerable effort to resolve these problems, but also continues to deploy greater effort.

We, therefore, call on those who attempt to exacerbate the situation to desist from their destructive activities.

It is regrettable that the situation in the Middle East continues to deteriorate, resulting in massacres appalling to human conscience. Revolutionary Ethiopia has condemned the inhuman action and unwarranted massacres perpetrated by imperialism and its collaborators against the Palestinian people, as well as the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. The right of the Palestinian people for self-determination and to form their own state must be respected.

It is obvious that the root cause for the existing problem in the Korean peninsula is the machinations by imperialists and their outright interventions. Since the division of the country is the result of external intervention and pressure, elimination of these factors would, indeed, pave the way for the peaceful reunification of the Korean people through direct negotiation.

Comrade President Kim Il-song, everyone knows that the armaments race is the most critical problem for the peace of the world and the very existence of mankind. Unless the race for the production of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons that would annihilate mankind is stopped, it is naive to think that the survivor of mankind, peace, development and prosperity can be assured. The termination of the production and testing of nuclear weapons, the elimination of existing stockpiles and the prohibition of their deployment anywhere outside the territory of the producing countries could pave the way towards general and complete disarmament. Ethiopia, therefore, believes that everyone's goodwill is a prerequisite for the negotiations underway

within the United Nations Disarmament Committee and those between the Soviet Union and the United States of America in Geneva to be continued and constructive results to be derived from them.

Food, health care and educational needs are, at the moment, the burning issues for the vast majority of the peoples of the world. How fortunate our world would, indeed, have been if a single day's armaments expenditure were to be allocated for the development of the vast majority of needy countries.

Likewise, all of us recognise that the prevailing unjust economic order and relations are causes for the disturbance of world peace and security. The problem is, thus, not just of prosperity or poverty but basically one of peace. Those with rigid positions should, therefore, reconsider their stand and work towards the realization of the new international economic order which the majority of the people of the world solidly request.

In order to contribute their share towards the solution of world economic problems and create favourable conditions for a new international economic order, there is no question that an open discussion among developing countries, leading to the formulation of a joint stand, is very essential.

In this regard, revolutionary Ethiopia endorses as very significant the South-South summit initiative taken by Democratic Korea under the far-sighted leadership of Comrade President Kim Il-song. We also believe that the conference of ministers of culture and education of the developing countries on the emancipation and protection from imperialist invasion, as well as promotion of national cultures which was recently held in Pyongyang, has contributed to South-South co-operation in general and the co-ordination of a joint stand in particular.

We hope that the prospect for further strengthening the cordial relations and fruitful co-operation between revolutionary Ethiopia and Democratic Korea will constitute a practical application of the objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement and open up a new chapter for the further enhancement of the co-operation between our two countries.

May I, finally, request you to join me in a toast:

For the health of Comrade Kim Il-song, for the peace, happiness, progress and prosperity of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have extended to us warm welcome and hospitality from the moment we set foot on this beautiful land, and for the further strengthening and consolidation of the co-operation between our two non-aligned countries.

Nampo Banquet Speech

SK210029 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2239 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (KCNA) — Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia, made a speech at a banquet arranged by the Nampo municipal committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Nampo Municipal People's Committee.

Noting that he came to clearly witness the admiration and support of the wise leader, Comrade President Kim Il-Song, the people and Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the Ethiopian people and revolution, he said:

Not only have our two peoples waged similar anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggle, but are also today engaged in a revolutionary struggle under the banner of socialism. Both our countries are among those which international imperialism has singled out as its major targets. Both our countries belong to the group of developing nations.

Whereas we have been following quite closely Democratic Korea's steady progress along the socialist path, what we observed with our own eyes from the very moment of our arrival in your beautiful country, has, indeed, proved to be far beyond our expectations. Over and above the mutual understanding and support existing between our two revolutionary countries, it is obvious that there are broad areas for mutual cooperation.

From our earlier visits in and around Pyongyang and today in this city, we have observed the high level of development achieved by Democratic Korea within a relatively short period of time. This achievement is not a source of pride only to the Korean leadership and people, but also exemplary for other developing countries like Ethiopia. We share your joy in your success. We are fully confident that the party, government and the diligent people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will stand on our side with their active support and solidarity.

In conclusion, he proposed a toast to the good health and long life of the great leader of the Korean people, Comrade President Kim Il-song, and to the good health and long life of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Further Reportage on Visit

For Pyongyang KCNA reportage on the official visit of Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, see the North Korea section of the 21 October Asia & Pacific *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Voice of Broad Masses Reports TPLF Successes

EA201232 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] On 12 October the heroic Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] forces attacked an enemy force stationed around Alamatta, killing one enemy soldier and capturing three others. They also captured four Kalashnikov assault rifles and other enemy property. An enemy force advancing to (Rebat) from Alamatta was also completely repulsed by the heroic TPLF forces. In another development, three young people have escaped from enemy hands and have joined the TPLF. They were among

those who were conscripted from Adowa, Axum, and Shire in Tigre Province and were based in Asamara.

KENYA

President Moi Kenyatta Day Address 20 October

EA202208 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0950 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Speech by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi on 20 October at Uhuru Park, Nairobi, on occasion of Kenyatta Day — live]

[Text] My dear countrymen: As we celebrate another Kenyatta Day, I wish to extend greetings to all Kenyans wherever they may be. Kenyatta Day symbolizes the nation's struggle for independence as well as the inevitable sacrifices that our people made. Most significant is the unfailing tribute we give to the founding father of the Kenya nation, the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta. [applause] As you remember him and all those who sacrificed their lives in the fight for freedom and human dignity, let us rededicate ourselves to the cause of peace, unity, and progress. Indeed, the biggest gratitude we can give Kenya's current freedom fighters is to continue the struggle for human dignity and the placement of Kenya's destiny in our own hands through genuine political and economic independence.

As you are all aware, we are celebrating this year's Kenyatta Day only a few weeks after the elections for the fifth Parliament. It also follows the formation of my new Cabinet and substantial restructuring of the organization of government ministries and departments. When I dissolved the last Parliament and called for elections, I made it clear that the nation needed to open a new chapter of leadership. We need more commitment and dedication from elected leaders, party officials, and those appointed to public offices. They are expected to be above tribal and sectional considerations. They should also be mindful of the needs of the people and not engage in activities intended to benefit themselves instead of those they have been elected or appointed to serve.

The same spirit of self-sacrifice that armed us for political independence 20 years ago, is the mandate of today's leaders in our struggle to build strong nation. My government will make greater effort to ensure that bulk public resources and opportunities are exploited for the good of all. The National Code of Conduct Committee which I announced during the last Kenyatta Day, will soon present its report that will set out guiding principles on ethics for all leaders whether elected or appointed. This will greatly improve the level of public accountability. Within the government itself, I shall require that ministers, assistant ministers, and public officials work as a team. Members of the Cabinet will in particular have to strictly conform to the convention and practice of collective responsibility. The nation expects and deserves mature leadership from those who have assumed positions of responsibility.

In my previous statement, I have already made it clear that only those found to be competent as leaders and servants of the people will have the privilege of continued service within the public sector. The ruling party, KANU, has an equally important role to play in shaping the new course of our national objectives and aspirations. With a view to putting more life into the party machinery, we will in the near future be holding party elections in the same democratic manner that was in evidence during the parliamentary elections recently concluded.

In the meantime, the exercise of recruiting party members will continue so as to ensure democratic and popular KANU elections. Unity and discipline among the party ranks are essential and for this reason squabbles among the leaders must not be allowed. In the past we have witnessed frequent incidents of public confrontations between leaders holding party posts. Whenever this has happened, wananchi have rightly assumed that their leaders are not united. This is not acceptable and I call upon all party members and their leaders to close ranks and make positive contributions to the building of a strong and united nation.

During my installation as your president a few days ago, I dwelt at length on issues about Kenya's economic situation. Specific and effective measures geared towards restructuring of the economy against the background of serious world recession have been instituted in most sectors of the economy. In particular I noted with satisfaction the progress made in the use of the district as the focus for development in the rural areas. Indeed, this is the basis upon which exploitation of our natural and human resources will be maximized for our overall national development. I am convinced that the future of this nation depends largely on how well the resources in our rural areas are harnessed to facilitate self-sufficiency in all types of food and to provide the basis for accelerated industrialization.

One of the most urgent problems facing Kenya today is the magnitude of unemployment. Although this is a problem facing many countries the world over, be they developed or developing, my government will spare no effort to reviving the tempo of our economic growth. We are already assisting the private sector by ensuring that essential raw materials and machinery spare parts are given priority in the allocation of foreign exchange. The private sector should postively respond to this gesture by embarking on measures that will boost employment opportunities outside the public sector.

The manufacturing sector in particular should aim at the export market and take advantage of the export scheme the government has set up for encouraging exports of manufactured goods. But as I have said on several occasions, our biggest hope for increasing employment opportunities lies in the agricultural sector and countrywide domestic outlets. It is for this reason that my government gave top priority to the development of rural communities. This, coupled with basic training of our youth in relevant trades, should help to alleviate unemployment problems, besides ensuring that most Kenyans participate in the development efforts of the nation, whether in public service or the private sector.

In the recent past many rural centers have assumed the status of township and even municipalities. There is hardly anything wrong with this. Every small village and trading center looks forward to the day when it will be promoted to a higher status. That promotion and status must, however, be earned through increased productivity and good management. Many of the

urban local authorities and the rural county councils are presently faced with serious financial and management problems. The government recognizes the role of our local authority and will continue to support them whenever possible. But it must be clear to all leaders elected into these representative bodies that it is their responsibility to ensure that each local authority is viable and that it meets the expectation of the local community and the residents. All councillors and officials must look at the local authorities not as places from which to benefit themselves, but these organizations are created to provide services to the local community in partnership with the central government. Shops owned or looked after by these organizations must be properly managed and accounted for. The use of public land must in particular be properly managed and supervised.

Another matter which has been of public concern for some years relates to the operation and management of cooperative societies throughout the country. There is no doubt that the cooperative society occupies a fundamental role in the social and economic activities in Kenya. We cannot, therefore, afford to allow a situation in which hard-earned incomes from cooperative endeavors are squandered or mismanaged by a few leaders and officials. My government will, therefore, strengthen measures aimed at streamlining the cooperative movement as an important sector of our national development strategy.

My dear Kenyans, I wish now to turn for a while to the international scene, since as a nation we are only a part of a larger international community. Just this week I ended my long tenure as the OAU chairman. During the 2 years of my chairmanship, we were preoccupied with many African issues, including those affecting Chad, Western Sahara, Namibia, and South Africa. Kenya is already on record for her active support for the liberation struggle in Namibia and it is our hope that the perpetrators of racial domination and colonialism in that country will see the sense and need to abide by UN resolutions geared towards Namibia's self-determination and attainment of political independence. Similarly, Kenya has consistently condemned the policies of apartheid, perpetuated by the South African regime. The practice of racial discrimination constitutes (?annihilation) of human dignity. It is also our hope that apartheid will finally give way to nationalism in the struggle for freedom and justice.

My government supports fully the continuing OAU efforts to bring about accord in the troubled country of Chad where its nationals have seen more violence than peace during the whole period of independence and nationhood. Similarly, we urge all concerned parties to devote their energies towards the search for a solution to the Western Sahara question in conformity with the OAU resolution.

Nearer home, my government will continue to maintain and strengthen the policy of good-neighborliness. Greater attention will be reserved for exploring avenues of increasing trade and commerce with our neighbors. Already there are encouraging developments regarding some of the obstacles that have stood in the way of full and meaningful cooperation among former parties in the East African Community. We hope that an agreement will soon be reached in the interest of all the people of the east African region.

In conclusion, let me emphasize the need for us to reflect on our past achievements and failures with a view to planning for a more prosperous future. As we approach the third decade of our nationhood, let us pause and think of where we are heading and how our national objectives will best be realised. Let us initiate and be ready to sustain a new spirit that will give us determination and sense of purpose in all our endeavors. In order to face the inevitable challenges of tomorrow, we must resolve to work as a single nation in the Nyaya philosophy of peace, love, and unity. Thank you. [applause]

TANZANIA

Zanzibar To Start External Broadcasting in 1984

EA201427 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1900 GMT 17 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Zanzibar: The Voice of Tanzania, Zanzibar, expects to start external broadcasts after the completion of a short wave transmitter next year. The Zanzibar Director of Information and Broadcasting, Ndugu Tatu Ali Abdallah, said today the 50-kw transmitter was being built on the outskirts of Zanzibar town with a loan from the PRC. Ndugu Abdallah told second-year students from the Tanzania School of Journalism, TSJ, who are currently visiting Zanzibar, that the first broadcasts would be in English and Arabic. He said the aim of starting the broadcasts was to publicize Tanzania's foreign policies and to explain the development activities being carried out by the citizens of the isles in their efforts to liberate themselves politically and economically. Ndugu Tatu Ali Abdallah also said that in the 20-year development plan, the voice of Tanzania, Zanzibar, expects to increase transmission output from 11-18 hours a day.

CHAD

Habre on Summit, Negotiations With Goukouni

AB200940 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1900 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] On his return to Ndjamena, Chadian President Hissein Habre declared that it was still too early to talk about the results which can be achieved by the community. He added, however, that the principle of the economic, cultural, and political unification of the central African states was a good thing. The Chadian president finally recalled that provisions in favor of the land-locked or insular countries have been made by the treaty. Earlier, while in Libreville, the Chadian head of state again invited all the Chadian opponents to his regime to go to Ndjamena as soon as possible to begin with him a general discussion on the current conflict. He also answered the press. First of all, he talked about the situation in his country.

[Begin recording] [Habre] Yes, there is the reality and there are also rumors. As you know, the public and particularly the press is interested in the Chadian problem and the press does not hesitate to exaggerate whenever there is a small incident. We will not deny that there have been incidents here and there in the south and even in the north but we must say that this is not a problem which can threaten the country's security. The Chadian problem is a global one and when an incident occurs — whether it is in the south, the east, the west, or the north — it is still in Chad and it concerns all Chadians, and we believe that a solution must be found to the problems of Chad. A solution must also be found to the problem of a reconciliation between all the Chadians [words indistinct].

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr President, during the Libreville summit meeting, you met with the acting secretary general of the OAU. Did this meeting constitute another step toward a negotiation between all Chadians?

[Habre] Yes, we had discussions with the acting secretary general of the OAU, Peter Onu. As I have just said, all possibilities are good to accelerate the search for a solution to the Chadian problem. In fact, the OAU also is making efforts in this regard.

[Correspondent] In this connection, are you prepared to meet with Goukouni Oueddei and the others?

[Habre] We have said and repeated that we exclude no one as far as the process of reconciliation Chadians is concerned. [end recording]

ZAIRE

AZAP Reports on Outcome of Mobutu FRG Visit

AB202135 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1200 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Oct (AZAP) — The world's rich countries have not achieved their development all by themselves. In order to become rich they had to bring in the manpower, funds, and technology they needed from where they could find these. They had to join efforts in order to achieve the industrial progress which ensures their people's prosperity now.

Leader Mobutu, who is working toward the same objective, namely the well-being of the Zairian people, has become the champion of such complementary cooperation. That is the significance of the 6-day working visit which the Zairian marshal has just paid to the FRG where he made promising contacts with political officials as well as with industrial and businessmen in Bonn, Stuttgart, Baden-Baden, and Munich.

He was to explain to everyone that it was high time that German businessmen became more interested in Zaire in view of the exceptional conditions of development which that country enjoys thanks to the current sanitation measures which have begun bearing fruit, even though the fruit is still green. The fruit will soon ripen and will be the juice both for the Zairian people and for the partners who trust them. In this connection, the credit given by the World Bank and the IMF are amply convincing.

What can be done to promote mutually beneficial cooperation? The leader answered this question, especially with regard to the FRG. As a matter of fact, that country, which has achieved remarkable technological progress, has considerable financial resources. Zaire, which is endowed with vast mineral and agricultural potential, lacks the means to develop them. In this case, the FRG's technological and financial assistance will complement the development of Zaire's resources. Zaire will thus promote its development while FRG investors draw just and substantial profits from their investments.

The economic crisis which is affecting the world should prompt the rich to show more solidarity with the poor. In fact, relations between partners who appreciate one another should not be kept up only when everything is going well. Some are doing their utmost to make a great deal of noise about Zaire's foreign debt, as if the country is less important than the $5.1 billion debt. Backed by figures, the head of state gave some details on this issue which merit some reflection: "If one takes into consideration the size of the country's economy and all its potential, a guarantee for the country's creditors, this debt is very small because it only represents 2.5 percent of our agricultural and mineral resources."

If one must specify, it should be stressed that the size of Zaire's debt is a result of the deterioration of exchange rates, the increase in oil prices, and high interest rates on the money market. Added to this, external factors which have reduced the country's ability to make foreign payments are the short periods of maturity on the loans that are granted and the short grace periods.

The dictum that says that it is only in times of trouble that you know your true friends can be applied perfectly to the old ties existing between Zaire and the FRG — that fully satisfy both sides. The head of state's visit to Germany was aimed at reviewing bilateral relations in order to develop them mainly at the economic level. In fact, the Federal Government, or industrialists and businessmen acting under its protection, have participated financially in various sectors of the Zairian economy including agriculture, transportation, and social and health infrastructures.

In the first quarter of this year, there was a surplus in Zaire's favor in the trade balance, that is, DM93.9 million.During the past 2 years hops was Germany's major export crop to Zaire. It should also be noted that at the economic level, the bank notes circulating in Zaire are printed in Munich.

The father of the nation also stressed that the FRG is a partner which feels that its solidarity with Zaire is not for sale. This leads to the conclusion that the marshal's campaign in that country was fruitful.

GHANA

Rawlings, U.S. Ambassador Meet; Statement Issued

AB200848 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The U.S. ambassador to Ghana, Robert Fritts, yesterday delivered a special letter from President Reagan to the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, at the Castle. A joint statement issued after their talks said the relations between Ghana and the United States have improved from the low point earlier this year, adding that some misunderstandings have been clarified and difficultues reduced. It said a process is underway which will permit differences between the two countries to be discussed in an atmosphere which respects national sovereignty, human dignity, and international comity.

According to the statement, Mr Fritts told Flight Lt Rawlings that the United States recognizes the prospect of a serious food shortage in Ghana. And in accordance with its traditional humanitarian concern, the United States is prepared to provide emergency food assistance in cooperation with the Government of Ghana, the World Food Program, and other donors. The statement said the U.S. ambassador noted some positive developments in human rights in Ghana such as the treatment of prisoners, and requested to know whether his government could be of help in further promotion of human rights. He gave the assurance that the United States will attend the consultative group meeting on Ghana to be hosted by the World Bank in Paris early next month.

For his part, Flight Lt Rawlings said he is gratified with the improvement of relations between the United States and Ghana and fully accepts the positive and constructive role of the American Embassy in Ghana. Present at the talks were the PNDC coordinating secretary, P.V. Obeng, and the secretary for the interior, Kofi Djin, who is also responsible for foreign affairs.

Nigerian High Commissioner on Cooperation

AB200843 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The Nigerian high commissioner to Ghana, Chief Adejoju Adeyemi, has said his country aspires to assist African countries economically within the context of her economy. He said Nigeria believes that an interconnection with Ghana in supplying excess power from the Akosombo hydroelectric project to Nigeria would go a long way to enhance Ghana-Nigeria cooperation and generate enough foreign exchange for Ghana. In an interview with a Ghana Broadcasting Corporation correspondent at Ho, Chief Adeyemi said such a venture would go a long way to offset some of Ghana's oil bills. The high commissioner said Nigeria is committed to the cause of Africa and is doing everything possible to ensure togetherness on the continent. Touching on terms of oil supply to Ghana by his country, Chief Adeyemi said he was sure that Nigeria would readily oblige to any positive step by Ghana to reschedule her debts.

Giving his impression about the country as a whole, Chief Adeyemi declared that since the Provisional National Defense Council came to power, discipline has gone down well with the people, notwithstanding the economic hardships Ghanaians are facing now. The high commissioner was on a tour of the Volta region.

PNDC Sends Condolence Message to Grenada

AB210810 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has sent a message of condolence to the people of the Caribbean island of Grenada on the brutal assassination of their revolutionary leader, Maurice Bishop, together with three of his ministers and many supporters. An official statement issued in Accra said this violent crime against a brother freedom fighter dedicated to the struggle of his people must be condemned by all. The message reaffirmed the solidarity of the people of Ghana with the people of Grenada in this tragic moment of their revolutionary process. It hopes a peaceful expression of the people's will can be found soon. Meanwhile, the PNDC has ordered all flags to be flown at half mast for 3 days, starting today, in honor of the departed leader of the Grenadian revolution.

PDC, WDC 'Interference' With Police Duties Noted

AB192145 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] The acting Eastern Regional secretary, Daniel Ohene-Agyekum, has toured the (Birim) district. Addressing a workers rally at Akim Oda, he emphasized that the government is determined to remove all corrupt and incompetent officials fromthe public service. He warned that any official found cheating the state will be put before the Public Tribunal. The regional secretary explained that the establishment of the People's Shops is meant to end diversion and cheating in the distribution system.

The regional coordinator of the National Defense Committee, Baffour Awuah, called for the immediate dissolution of what he described as kangaroo courts established by People's Defense Committees [PDC] in the region. He said all offenses must be referred to the police who have the expertise to deal with them. Baffour Awuah blamed the conflict between the police and the PDC on the interference in the duties of the police by PDCs and Workers Defense Committees [WDC]. He made it clear that it is the duty of the PDC's and WDC's to be watchdogs of the revolution. The coordinator, however, said the PDC's and WDC's should have interest in the work of the police to ensure that cases reported to them were properly handled.

At Asasewa, also in the Eastern Region, the police and local PDC have held their first joint meeting. The aim is to bury their differences and work in harmony to ensure the success of the revolution. Addressing the meeting, the deputy superintendent of police in charge of the area, Mr Okpata, stressed the need for cooperation and discipline by the two institutions to enable them to defeat the enemies of the revolution. The publicity officer of

Asasewa PDC, Joseph Aguduwa, advised members of the two organs not to indulge in acts which will go to discredit the revolution. He called for such regular meetings to take stock of individual stewardship. Assistant Superintendent of Police Okpata and the acting zonal coordinator of PDCs and WDCs, A.O. Ayensu, have appointed a five-member committee to monitor the sale of kerosene and other commodities in the area.

GUINEA

Sekou Toure Returns From Monrovia 20 Oct

AB210807 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpt] President Ahmed Sekou Toure, supreme leader of the revolution, who led an important official delegation, returned to Conakry on Thursday at 1630 from Monrovia, Liberia, where he participated in the 10th summit of heads of state and government of the Mano River Union.

NIGERIA

Shagari Advisers To Be Sworn In 21 Oct

AB201835 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The seven special advisers appointed by President Shehu Shagari are to be sworn in tomorrow at a ceremony at the State House, Ribadu Road. The oath will be administered by the president. The special advisers are Doctor Teophilus Aribisala, agriculture; Mr Gamaliel Onosode, budget; Prof Shehu Mohamadu Galadanci, national security; and Mr Philip Asiodu, economic affairs. Others are Malam Yahaya Dikko, petroleum and energy; Alhaji Suleiman Takuma, political affairs; and Sam Ikoku, National Assembly liaison.

Offshore Oil Discovered Near Port Harcourt

AB201348 Lagos NAN in English 1315 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Port Harcourt, Oct 20 (NAN) — The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has discovered oil off the shores of Cross River, the branch superintendent of the company in Port Harcourt, Dr Allan Balogun, has said. Dr Balogun told a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) today that the oil well, called Emem-1 was drilled by the NNPC with a semi-submersible rig called Sedneth-1 in a water depth of 76.5 meters. He said that the oil well was of two levels and that when tested, each level produced an initial output of 2,700 barrels per day. Dr Balogun quoted the gravity of the oil as 23.7 degrees at the upper reservior and 39-40 degrees at the lower reservior. On the signficance of the new discovery, Dr Balogun said that the oil would save the country a lot of foreign exchange which otherwise would be spent on the importation of heavy oil from Venezuela. He added that the new oil would serve the oil needs of the Kaduna oil refinery, when production begins.

The latest oil discovery is the second by the eastern sector of the NNPC since this year and the 16th since 1976, he further added.

SENEGAL

Agricultural Production Halved by Drought

AB201850 Paris AFP in English 1456 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Dakar, Oct 20 (AFP) — Food and cash crops will show a sharp reduction in output this year because of drought in Senegal, Rural Development Minister Amadou Batar Diop was quoted as saying today. He told the daily *Le Soleil* that late and insufficient rainfall had affected virtually the whole of the country. The level was not even half that of a normal year. There would be a shortfall of more than 300,000 tons in food crops, as well as a drop in production of cotton and groundnuts, the main cash crops, Mr Batar Diop said. To meet the needs of local people and livestock, the government had carried out an emergency programme to distribute 25,300 tons of cereals and other food to the regions affected, at a total cost of more than five million dollars.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives SDAR Delegation, Message

AB201415 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally and president of the republic, this morning received an SDAR delegation led by Mohamed Sidaki, minister in charge of the SDAR Presidential Secretariat, at the presidency. He delivered a message to President Eyadema from his brother and friend Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the SDAR. The delegation included Said Ahmed, SDAR presidential adviser, and His Excellency Wadaki Ahmed, SDAR ambassador for West Africa.

Foreign Minister on Borders With Ghana

AB201610 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau of the Togolese People's Rally and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, this morning met ambassadors, consular representatives, and representatives of international organizations accredited to Togo at his ministry. Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo again reiterated his country's stand on the closure of the Ghana-Togo border which was decided upon on 21 September 1982 by the Ghanaian authorities. After recalling the conditions leading to this closure and the steps undertaken by Accra for the reopening of only four border posts, the Togolese foreign minister reiterated Lome's stand. Togo is prepared to reopen its borders the day, the hour, and the minute Ghana will open its borders totally without any restrictions. Let us listen to Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo:

[Begin recording] I convened this meeting this morning to make a brief statement on the closure by the Accra authorities of the Ghana-Togo border since 21 September 1982. In fact, on 21 September 1982, the Ghanaian authorities decided unilaterally to close their borders with their neighbors. At the time, the Accra authorities informed the three countries of the decision, which

according to them was aimed at fighting against smuggling. The note from the Ghanaian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said as soon as the fixed objectives had been attained, Ghana would reopen its borders.

Since then, and especially since 5 September 1983, the Ghanaian authorities make statements from time to time announcing to the world that Ghana has reopened its border with Togo and that it is the Togolese side that has refused to reciprocate.

In the name of the Togolese Government, I would like to reaffirm the truth in the situation which is not as the Ghanaian authorities regularly present it. After deciding unilaterally to close its borders, Ghana contacted Togo and proposed the opening of the border at one entry point, at Aflao. We replied that the border between our two countries does not comprise only one point of entry and that besides, our two countries are signatories of international consular agreements and of the Ecowas draft treaty on free movement of persons and goods between member countries. Neither of these agreements permit two signatory countries to agree to momentarily violate some of their terms. Togo respects international agreements that it freely signed and cannot be an accomplice to any form of violation of these agreements.

Next, Ghana proposed to us the opening of two, or three, and last time, four border posts. We gave the same reply. On 5 September this year, Ghana announced to the world that it had reopened its border with Togo but at the same time Ghana sent a verbal message to the Togolese Government, informing it that four border posts had been reopened with Togo. Ghana chose these four posts without even seeking our opinion on the matter. Naturally, we maintained our stand. The border between our two countries is several hundreds of kilometers long and has more than one point of entry. Why should we penalize the other sections of our population in areas where the border posts would remain closed?

Recently, on 18 October 1983 precisely, the Ghanaian authorities released a press communique stating once more that the border had been reopened on the Ghana side and that it is the Togolese side that remains closed. They never mention the fact that they informed us that the border would be closed except at four points of entry, which we cannot accept.

We repeat the truth in the matter: Togo has never closed its borders with its neighbors. It was Ghana who on 21 September 1982 closed its borders. It was only after multiple and friendly attempts by Togo that our country decided to close its borders if the opposite borders were closed.

Therefore, the reality is that the Ghanaian authorities have maintained the closure of the borders and propose that we accept this state of affairs except at four points. Besides, we do not know precisely why. We do not know why. We reiterated our readinesss to reopen our borders on the day, the hour, and the minute Ghana decides to reopen its borders totally without any restrictions. We will do it within the framework of strict respect for Ecowas agreements and international consular agreements which Togo is determined to respect, scrupulously. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

Revolutionary People's Tribunals Established

AB201135 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The Council of Ministers met yesterday, Wednesday, 19 October 1983, from 0900 to 2020 under the chairmanship of Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state. The meeting took important measures and decisions, among which were an ordinance on the dissolution of the special court and establishment of revolutionary people's tribunals. This ordinance will be read here and explained by the comrade minister of justice and keeper of the seals. The council also disapproved totally and condemned events which occured on 18 October at OPT [Post and Telecommunications Office]. Those responsible for these events will be punished. Details on the meeting of the Council of Ministers will be brought to the knowledge of the people today.

Concerning the dissolution of the special court and the establishment of revolutionary people's tribunals, Comrade Raymond Poda, minister of justice and keeper of the seals has given more details:

[Begin Poda recording] The special court — you know what it is — has been dissolved. Comrade President Thomas Sankara has decided to establish revolutionary people's tribunals through this ordinance which I will now read to you. Ordinance No 83-015-CNR-PRES, on the establishment of revolutionary people's tribunals. The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state, considering the 4 August 1983 proclamation, considering Ordinance No 83-001-CNR of 4 August 1983 on the setting up of the CNR, considering Decree No 83-021-PRES of 4 August 1983 on the composition of the Upper Voltan Government, considering Ordinance No 83-022-CSP-[People's Salvation Council]-PRES of 18 May 1983 on the setting up of a special court, orders:

Article 1: A revolutionary people's tribunal has been set up in the jurisdiction of each of the appeal courts of Upper Volta. The seats of the tribunals have been fixed at Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso respectively.

Article 2: The revolutionary people's tribunal is competent to hear cases for political crimes, crimes and offenses against the internal and external security of the state, cases of embezzlement of public funds which it will judge useful to hear, and generally all crimes and offenses committed by agents and servants of the state in the performance of their duties or on the occasion of the performance of their duties.

Article 3: The revolutionary people's tribunal is composed of: 3 magistrates of the judiciary; 3 military men, 1 of which is a gendarme; and 12 members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR]. It is presided over by a magistrate.

Article 4: Members of the revolutionary people's tribunal are appointed by decree issued during a Council of Ministers meeting.

Article 5: The revolutionary people's tribunal will hold as many sittings as necessary. The opening date of every session is fixed by an ordinance issued by the chairman of the revolutionary people's tribunal. Hearings are public.

Article 6: The registrar of the revolutionary people's tribunal is appointed by an order issued by the keeper of the seals and minister of justice. He will be appointed from among registrars of courts and tribunals.

Article 7: At the request of the chairman of the revolutionary people's tribunal, accused persons, witnesses, and plaintiffs will be summoned directly to appear before the revolutionary people's tribunal by the security forces.

The deadline between the time the summons is issued and the day fixed to appear before the tribunal is a minimum of 10 days. False evidence will be punished severely by the revolutionary people's tribunal.

Article 8: The revolutionary people's tribunal sits without a public prosecutor and the accused person will appear without the assistance of a counsel. He will ensure his own defense.

Article 9: The procedures for the examination and judgment of cases — whatever the offense — are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the criminal code procedure, if the provisions are not contrary to this ordinance.

Article 10: Decisions of the revolutionary people's tribunals are passed without possibility of appeal and can only be challenged by appealing for mercy.

Article 11: The decision of the tribunal must include the identity of the accused person, the offense for which he was tried by the revolutionary people's tribunal, the sentence, and the public reading of the decision which the chairman and the registrar deem appropriate.

Article 12: Any person found guilty of offenses as contained in article 2 above, will be liable to one or more of the following sentences:

1 — A partial or total expropriation of movable properties and landed estates up to the amount embezzled.

2 — A fine.

3 — A jail sentence without possibility of remission or with suspended execution of sentence. The suspended execution of the sentence can be appealed to enable the person found guilty to have the opportunity to mend his ways politically and socially in order to reintegrate into society.

Article 13: Provisions of this ordinance will apply to all cases under the jurisdiction of the revolutionary people's tribunal, even if the offenses were committed prior to the promulgation of this ordinance and sentence of imprisonment for debt must always be passed whatever the sentence arrived at.

Article 14: Sentences are carried into effect immediately.

Article 15: Civil actions by public or semi-public enterprises can be heard by the revolutionary people's tribunal.

Article 16: The mode of application of this ordinance will be fixed by decree when necessary.

Article 17: The present ordinance, which amends all previous and contrary provisions, in particular Ordinance 83-022-CSP-PRES of 18 May 1983 on the setting up of a special court, will be carried out as an order of the state.

Ouagadougou 19 October 1983. [signed] Captain Thomas Sankara

Thus, the special court is dissolved and replaced by the people's revolutionary tribunals. Once again the CNR and its comrade leader Thomas Sankara have demonstrated their willingness to call a spade a spade. In fact, the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress [CMRPN] which overthrew the Third Republic could not and was unable — because they were congenitally united — to give rapid and effective judgment to disputes between dignitaries of the Third Republic and the Upper Voltan people.

And this is not by chance. How do you expect the very people who, directly or indirectly, participated in the management of affairs in the Third Republic, such as Saye Zerbo, Tiemtarboum, Sanfo, and others, to logically put their collaborators of yesterday before a fair trial? How do you expect magistrates — and we are going to mention one name: Paul Nikiema, a constant political friend of the dignitaries of the Third Republic — to logically and fairly investigate their charges and give them a trial? This, obviously is impossible. The proof and results are there and speak eloquently for themselves: For 3 years, the special court has been dragging its feet. Only two cases have been investigated and are ready for trial. We say only two because the final report of a third case has mysteriously disappeared. Yes, it disappeared!

Comrades, for all these reasons and especially for two reasons, and adhering mainly to the exigencies of the revolution, the comrade president has dissolved the special court and has created in its place the people's revolutionary tribunal — a simple and flexible people's jurisdiction to try quickly all past, present, and future political delinquents. The first reason, therefore, is that of the interest of the revolution, and whoever talks of revolution should call things by their names; a spade is a spade. Therefore, the CNR has a case against political deliquents and embezzlers of public funds. The only suitable type of trial is a political trial. This political trial will be the affair of all the people. This is what is in effect now; it is the only true way and it is what we are going to do.

The second reason is that we are convinced that this trial by the people will be rapid. The burdensome and slow process of the classical bourgeois court proceedings has come to an end. In fact, the CNR has neither the time nor the material and financial resources to waste on an expensive trial. Nor has it the energy to put elsewhere other than where it is necessary, that is, to advance objectively and in concrete tems, the welfare of the Upper Voltan people.

In other words, we must consolidate and make the people's democratic revolution triumph completely. This is the revolutionary justice of the majority of the people that should supplant that of the reactionary minority which has existed in Upper Volta until the arrival of the CNR. From now on, there is only one court, the revolutionary court, I must repeat, the only one for all. In this people's trial, the accused will have to face the people. The accused will explain and defend himself, while the people's revolutionary tribunal gives the judgment. That is to say, the accused will not have any lawyer and the public ministry will not have any. You will notice from Article 3, that by its composition the people's revolutionary tribunal will cover the whole country. The trials will be held periodically to enable members of the CDR to be represented.

Comrades, to all those who might see in this people's court a fake trial, you must simply tell them that the fake trial is the one which ends abruptly and the accused is provisionally freed, and finally the case is judged by a friendly judge who never penalizes his guilty friends. This fake trial has come to an end in the Upper Volta of 4 August.

Comrade judges of the people's revolutionary tribunals, the people have entrusted you with a noble mission. You must carry it out dispassionately, and let the people's right be your only guide in the judgment you will give. Long live a revolutionary justice in the service of the people! The struggle continues and we shall overcome! [end recording]

ANGOLA

French Communist Party Chief Speaks on Arrival

MB210950 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary general of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais, arrived in Luanda last night for a 5-day official visit to our country at the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party. Shortly after his arrival at 4 February International Airport, the French Communist Party leader read a political statement in which he first expressed gratitude to the chairman of the party and president of the republic, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, for his kindness in inviting him to visit the People's Republic of Angola. In his political statement the secretary general of the French Communist Party said that the French people followed the liberation struggle against Portuguese colonialism with great interest and admiration and that they are now also attentively watching the developing situation in Angola, which is characterized by constant attacks by the South African racist regime and its agents. We know that Africa is a rich continent with immense human and natural resources and yet also a continent of misery, famine, and illiteracy. It is still the area preferred by multinational companies which plunder its natural resources by setting low prices for its raw materials, Georges Marchais went on to say.

In this connection, the secretary general of the French Communist Party said that Africa is a land of struggle and experiences, where awareness is growing, which is making many states choose a path of social progress. This displeases the forces of reaction, particularly in the southern part of our continent, where the racist Pretoria regime dares to disregard the international community by illegally occupying territories of other countries and making terrorist attacks against defenseless peoples. Georges Marchais said his visit to Angola is designed to reaffirm the French Communist Party's solidarity with the Angolan people in the struggle against the South African aggressors and to study new prospects for strengthening relations between his organization and the MPLA-Labor Party. Concluding his political statement, the secretary general of the French Communist Party said that his organization has proposed to the Paris government that it increase its aid and promote even further its cooperation with African countries, particularly Angola, a target of attacks. At 4 February International Airport the French Communist Party chief was welcomed by the secretary of the party Central Committee organization, Comrade Lucio Lara, and other members of the party Politcal Bureau and Central Committee.

ANGOP Reports 20 UNITA Members Killed

MB210756 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] In Cabinda and Huambo Provinces there is a rush of youths to join the military forces with the aim of totally eliminating the counterrevolutionary gangs. ANGOP carries reports filed by its correspondents in Huambo that 20 UNITA bandits were killed in the province 8-9 October in the Mungo region and that various military equipment was captured. In Cuanza Norte Province ANGOP has reported that a 15-year-old young girl who was abducted about 5 years ago by UNITA bandits was able to escape and present herself to the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]. This girl, (Duramo Luciana Joaoi, says she and other captive girls were being kept naked and under constant guard to prevent them from attempting to escape. (Luciana Joao) said the young girls who attempted to run away from the gangsters and were caught were killed by the counterrevolutionaries and that she was able to escape when she went to a river to fetch water. In order to help such victims of the barbaric counterrevolution, the Angolan Red Cross deputy chairman, Comrade (Cota Neto), received a donation valued at 352,636 kwanzas the day before yesterday. The gift was made in the presence of the coordinator of the Luanda Province party committee, Comrade Evaristo Domingos Kimba.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Replies to RSA Protest Note

MB200742 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Replying to a letter on the destabilization issue sent to him this week by the South African minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, The Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, the minister of foreign affairs, said yesterday Lesotho's accusation is that the Republic of South Africa allows its territory to be used for harboring, training, and cross-border operations against Lesotho contrary to interntional law, pointing out that South Africa's tolerance of the Lesotho Liberation Army could [not] be interpreted as anything but destabilization. The minister said Lesotho had categorically asserted to South Africa and disaffected South African refugees in Lesotho, that the refugees may not use Lesotho's territory for attacks against neighboring states. The disaffection of South Africa does not allow Lesotho to condone or facilitate acts against security of South Africa despite their complaint that South Africa does not settle political differences with them by way of conciliation or an electoral process.

Concerning the tightening of border controls by South Africa in order, as alleged, to control anti-South African elements, Mr Sekhonyana wondered if Mr Botha seriously thinks there were such elements to operate from Lesotho against South Africa that they would use normal official border posts for illegal entry. Or does the minister regard all the peaceful and law abiding Basotho who use these border posts as anti-South African elements? Mr Sekhonyana pointed out that it is these law-abiding Basotho who suffered as a result of the tightening of the border controls. He also repeated his rejection as an insult the innuendo that the Lesotho Government could ever think of passing its arms to subversive elements.

The minister has assured his counterpart that Lesotho wishes in earnest to have normal relations with South Africa, stressing, and I quote, our understanding of the latter is that it is predicated upon mutual respect and not out of fear nor muzzling of each other when variances occur, unquote. Mr Sekhonyana appealed to Mr Botha and his government not to overreact to Lesotho's pronouncements made genuinely and in the interest of Lesotho,

particularly in Lesotho's quest for genuine and lasting neighborly relations. He said, however, that cowing Lesotho into timid submissiveness is not exemplary of good relations no matter how quiet they may be. But if South Africa chooses to browbeat her neighbors and prefers not to know about mutual problems out of fear of reprisals, then it will be South Africa which will have to account to its citizens for inability to promote genuine interdependable relations that Lesotho and many South African citizens so much desire.

Opposition Leader Says Jonathan Violating Rights

MB201230 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 20 Oct 83 p 3

[By *Mail* Africa Bureau]

[Text] Maseru — The leader of the opposition United Democratic Party, Mr Charles Mofeli, has accused the Lesotho prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan, of gross vilation of human rights. Speaking at a press conference in Maseru yesterday, Mr Mofeli claimed opposition party members were being harassed, detained and interrogated at gunpoint and told not to hold political rallies in preparation for Lesotho's coming general election. Only supporters of the ruling National Party are allowed to hold such rallies.

Mr Mofeli brought to the conference one of the alleged victims of the harassment, said to have been beaten by the Lesotho Security Police during the electioneering campaign in Qachas's Nek earlier this month. Mr Tumelo Mohlouoa told the press conference he was detained for five days during which he was denied food and interrogated during the day and night and assaulted. He claimed he was also threatened with death.

MOZAMBIQUE

West Urged To Act Against South Africa

MB201808 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] This week's bomb outrage at the Maputo office of the ANC of South Africa was an act of international terrorism. As such, it has been condemned by the governments of civilized nations around the world. The outrage was perpetrated by the fascist Government of South Africa on people who demand democracy and justice in that country, and we do not use the word fascist lightly. It was used by a former South African prime minister, Jan Smuts, to describe the broederbond, the Afrikaner secret society which later came to rule South Africa. Today, the prime minister and almost all of his Cabinet are members of the broederbond. The term fascist can be used and is often used merely as an insult. In the case of South Africa, however, it comes straight from the lips of a white Afrikaner politician, Jan Smuts.

The fascist ideology is a threat to the world. The experiences of the 1930's and the 1940's made this clear. The policies and beliefs of the ANC, on the other hand, are those cherished by all who strive for feedom, equality, and social justice. Four decades ago the world's democratic forces fought and defeated the fascist menace in Europe and Asia. The peoples of the world rose to defend democracy. The Afrikaner broederbond defended Hitler, and these are the men in power in South Africa today.

It is natural, therefore, that the world should today condemn the fascism of our era, but it must be pointed out that condemnation is not enough. Hitler did not run off and hide in a corner simply because he was denounced, and neither will P.W. Botha. It is an unpleasant fact of life that Western capitalism has played and continues to play a major role in maintaining the apartheid system in South Africa. A million condemnations of apartheid will not counterbalance the loans, the investment, the trade, and the transfer of scientific and military technology from the West to South Africa. What is needed now is positive action by governments in the West to cut off the supply of funds and technology to Pretoria as long as the apartheid system remains in force. While this action is not taken, the South African regime will assume that its attacks on neighboring countries have the secret blessing of the West and that Western condemnations are a mere formality. Nothing could be more dangerous for the future of southern Africa.

NAMIBIA

DTA Chairman Answers NP Questions on Conference

MB210646 Windhoek Die Republikein in Afrikaans 12 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[Text] Mr Dirk Mudge, chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] and leader of the Republican Party, said last night he is prepared to enlighten Mr Kosie Pretorius and his executive as soon as it is convenient on the events which gave rise to the holding of a multiparty conference. Mr Mudge was approached following a press statement issued yesterday morning by Mr Pretorius in which he indicated that there were matters of which he was uncertain. Mr Mudge sketched the state of affairs as follows:

When it became apparent that the territory's political and constitutional process had reached a stalemate and when some leaders questioned the proposed State Council as a solution, the five political parties and alliances — the Damara Council, SWAPO- Democrats, the Liberation Front, the DTA, and the South-West African National Union — spontaneously and with no specific invitation met on the basis of a common desire to revive the political and constitutional process and end the political infighting of the past, which had often been the result of personal feuds. The five parties, after discussion, decided to welcome all parties which shared the same ideals and to arrange a meeting to determine whether or not such a common purpose really existed.

It goes without saying that at this stage there can be no talk of a final agenda, or meeting procedures, or the like. That will be the task of the pilot committee, to which we hoped to attract all interested parties. The recommendations of the pilot committee will be presented to the executive of the parties involved individually and jointly to their leaders.

The behavior of the National Party (South-West Africa) [NPtSWA] is, therefore, strange to me. In Mr Pretorius' press statements of 4 and 11 October he insists on answers to specific problems which the parties are working on at present. Clearly, Mr Pretorius has the following choices: He can join the talks without asking so many questions and make his contribution toward deciding the aims, determining the meeting precedures, and drawing up an agenda and then decide whether he wants to continue as part of the group. Or he can wait until the parties at present involved have drawn up a formal agreement before deciding if the "complete details" are to his liking and if he would like to be part of the further developments.

The fear Mr Pretorius and his newspaper harbor regarding the multiparty conference is hard to credit. The multiparty conference is not a body established by law, and the NPtSWA would not be tying itself to anything by taking part in the proceedings. If at any stage they felt they could not continue, they could simply withdraw — as they withdrew in the past from a legally instituted body.

I believe Mr Pretorius should advise his party to get involved before the talks have progressed too far. He must not wait for an invitation, because the original group of parties decided there would be no specific invitations but that all would be welcome who desired a solution. The alleged promise that a written invitation would be issued to Mr Pretorius may have been made by Mr Shipanga and Mr Katjiuongua, but that would have been before the no-invitation agreement.

Neither Mr Pretorius nor his newspaper have approached me to date to ask for more details, but I offer to provide such as soon as is convenient to them.

SWAPO Commentary Says RSA Plan 'Delaying Tactic'

MB191538 Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Station commentary from SWAPO program]

[Text] Good evening dear listeners, countrymen, and combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN. In tonight's edition we shall focus on Botha's state council. The setting up of the state council, which was announced for the first time in a press statement issued in Windhoek on 12 June 1983 by Willie van Niekerk, the South African colonial governor in Namibia, or the so-called administrator-general, is yet another attempt of a puppet show in our country. According to the report, the purpose for setting up the state council is to draw up a comprehensive proposal regarding the nature and the function of the internal government to be set up in Namibia. It is to be made up of 50-55 representatives of the various groups or so-called internal parties to be headed by a South African judge with long experience in the management of bantustan affairs in Transkei. The state council will initially be set up for a period of 6 months to complete the above-mentioned functions. There is a provision, furthermore, that the 6-month period can be extended if the council would request such an extention.

The process of composing the state council was in the first instance supposed to entail the nomination of the 50-55 representatives by the various puppet groups which have agreed to participate in Pretoria's new puppet show. After being nominated for membership to the state council, the 50-55 puppets will then be required to go through the ritual of the bogus referendum. The result of the referendum will be calibrated on the basis of what financial [words indistinct] over all territories' wide support of each group in respect of each population group. The bogus referendum is intended to uphold the new puppet show — a veneer of credibility, both nationally and internationally.

The latest South African delaying tactic, designed as it obviously (?is), is to further run away from the implementation of the UN plan for the independence of Namibia. This has come as no surprise to SWAPO. We have known that despite South Africa's dismal and shameful failure to have had her Turnhalle puppet government accepted by the Namibian people, the racists are still bent on imposing their prejudice on our people. Ever since his recent arrival in Namibia, South Africa's colonial governor has been busy reassuring, cajoling, and (?activating) the various puppet groups to accept Pretoria's latest attempt to put together a new anti-SWAPO solution which, on the face of it, would appear to be more representative that the previous Turnhalle puppet show. In addition to the leading spokesmen of the various puppet groups, a South African administrator-general, has also been actively trying to solicit the participation of the representatives of the local boards of the multinational corporations in Namibia, as well as that of local businessmen.

Dear listeners, comrades, and combatants of PLAN, what Van Niekerk is trying to do, we don't know. He tried to put up the state council, which is good for nothing, with racist Botha and his puppets Peter Kalangula and others. Comrades and combatants of PLAN, our motto remains that it is either an independent fatherland or death.

SOUTH AFRICA

UN Envoy Reiterates Stand on Cuban Troops

MB210719 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The South African permanent representative at the United Nations, Mr Kurt von Schirnding, has told the Security Council that there can be no independence for South-West Africa until the Cuban forces are withdrawn from Angola. Mr von Schirnding was speaking at the opening of a Security Council meeting called at the request of black African states to discuss progress made by the secretary general, Dr Perez de Cuellar, with his new initiative on South-West Africa. He said the position of the South African Government on the issue was that it would not be possible to put into practice any settlement plan unless a clear agreement was reached on Cuban withdrawal. Mr von Schirnding said the South African Government was irrevocably committed on this issue. Firm agreement would have to be reached on the fundamental requirements of Cuban withdrawal and a commitment would have to be obtained from the Angolan Government on the implementation of such an agreement.

He said there was irrefutable evidence that SWAPO and the Angolan Government forces, FAPLA, were becoming increasingly integrated and that the FAPLA forces were advised by Cubans. Before Mr von Schirnding addressed the Security Council, black African representatives had condemned the linking of the UN independence plan with the presence of Cubans in Angola. Mr von Schirnding, however, said that the presence of 30,000 Cuban troops on Angola was not a figment of South Africa's imagination. It was a fact. He said it took a great deal of wishful thinking to deny that the connection existed. The South African permanent representative said SWAPO operated from Angola with active FAPLA and Cuban support.

The relevance of the presence in Angola of Cuban forces was, therefore, indivisible from the efforts to put an end to conflict in the area and establish long-term peace in the region. Mr von Schirnding said it was absurd to deny that the introduction of surrogate forces of the Soviet Union into southern Africa was not a cause of the gravest concern, not only to South Africa and South-West Africa, but to all the countries of the region. Mr Schirnding said it would be futile for the Security Council to attempt to set any deadlines until the issue of Cuban forces in Angola had been resolved. South Africa would not accept any such deadlines.

Minister Denies Similarities to Rhodesia

MB201904 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Dr Heunis, says no comparison can be drawn between South Africa and the former Rhodesia as far as the choice of the new constitution is concerned. He was commenting in Pretoria on allegations by some political parties that the electorate should vote no in the coming referendum because the proposed new constitution would place South Africa on the same path as Rhodesia and would eventually lead to a black majority government. Mr Heunis said there were meaningful alternatives for blacks in South Africa to the extent where four black nations had already become independent. He said that where answers had not yet been found, as was the case with urban blacks, further alternatives based on the group composition of South African society were being investigated.

Mr Heunis stressed that the new dispensation provided only for whites, Coloreds, and Indians and contained nothing which would place the position on blacks on the same level as that of the three other population groups. The proposed new constitution could, therefore, not lead to a black majority government as happened in Rhodesia. Mr Heunis said it remained government policy that blacks should develop to independence in their own territory and that the new constitution did not change this. It had, however, never been the policy in Rhodesia to give the Shonas and Matabeles self-government in their own areas. Another important factor in South Africa was that there was no third party — Britain — which could force black majority government on the country, as had been the case in Rhodesia. Mr Heunis also pointed at the vast differences in populations and the 5 million whites in South Africa as against 225,000 in Rhodesia.

kwaZulu Leader Comments on Disinvestment, Strikes

MB210949 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Blacks see disinvestment in South Africa and labor strikes as the only alternatives other than violence to voice their disapproval if the new constitution is accepted. That is the view of the leader of kwaZulu. However, says Gatsha Buthelezi, he will not advocate either option if there is a yes vote in the 2 November referendum on the constitution. Buthelezi has made these comments in statements released after a meeting between kwaZulu cabinet ministers and representatives of the Natal Chamber of Industries. Buthelezi says he is aware that disinvestment or strikes would harm blacks.

Natal's DAILY NEWS Urges No Vote in Referendum

MB201526 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0747 GMT 20 Oct 83

[By M. Green]

[Text] Durban, Oct 20, SAPA — *The Daily News*, Natal's biggest daily paper, today urged its readers to vote no in the November 2 referendum. In a frontpage editorial, *The Daily News* said: "The best thing that can be said for the proposed new constitution is that for the first time it brings people of colour into the top level of government. The worst that can be said is that this same constitution is almost certainly opposed by the vast majority of people of colour.

"There will be many voters of good conscience who will be inclined to say yes. They will say it is a beginning, a step in the right direction, and they will hope that further progress, especially the inclusion of at least the urban blacks in the parliamentary process, is inevitable. Well, hope springs eternal in the human breast, but it is wise to temper optimism with realism. The prime minister himself has said that there is no secret agenda for the future, and some of his Cabinet ministers have expressed themselves in brutally frank terms, including the assurance that apartheid will remain (as indeed it does in the new constitution itself).

"It can be argued that these statements are made to appease the right wing of the National Party plus the Conservative Party and the HNP [Reconstituted National Party]. Maybe, but there is no evidence to suggest that, with the pressure off, the government will implement a programme of further reform in a fervour of new found enlightenment. To ensure their continued political ascendancy, the nationalists are prepared to woo 'the English,' but every now and then the smiling mask slips and the true face is briefly and grimly revealed.

"Consider the curtailment of parliamentary debate on the constitutional legislation. Consider the refusal of nationalist newspapers to publish PFP [Progressive Federal Party] advertisements urging a no vote (the English papers, in contrast, air all points of view, editorially and in advertisements). Consider the obviously deliberate policy of limiting Dr van Zyl Slabbert's time on television (he's a persuasive man and he might make too many

converts). Consider Mr Owen Horwood's airy claim that the referendum will produce a new political alignment in Natal, a euphemism for Natal going Nat. Consider the possible consequences of that, from interracial relationships to Sunday sport. Consider even, if you can do so without anger, the plans to give more of Natal's water to the Transvaal. They want your vote now, but as one nationalist editor has said with unusual candour, there will be no pay-off later.

"For white English-speaking citizens, a yes vote is essentially an expression of hope for further progress and perhaps also the hope (especially in the business community) that the Western world will approve. But unquestionably the greatest danger of a yes vote is that it will antagonise all black people and probably most brown people. Chief Buthelezi has made his view clear, and business people should remember that his opinions are widely respected abroad. It has been argued that rejection of the constitution could bring the rightists to power, by way of some kind of conciliation between the Nationalists and the Conservatives.

"Yes, that is a possibility, though probably a remote one. But what is an impossibility is the halting of inevitable historical processes. Whoever governs South Africa in the future is going to have to come to terms, somehow or other, with the black people. To alienate them totally, as the new constitution does, could make the future task infinitely more difficult.

The white voters of Natal have a special responsibility on November 2. Intergroup relations in this province are probably more harmonious than in any other part of South Africa. We have a diverse population but we have acquired, especially in recent years, a desire for compatibility. Our destinies are interwoven and much depends on friendship, respect, tolerance and cooperation. To vote yes in the referendum would be to put that relationship at risk. That is why, in spite of the counterattraction of the 'flawed but worth a try' argument, the white voters of Natal should, we believe, say no."

SWAZILAND

House of Assembly Approves Sedition Bill

MB201247 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The amendment bill on sedition and subversive activities was yesterday approved by the House of Assembly, and it will be presented to senators in the afternoon today. The bill calls for a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment or 20,000 emalangeni to convicts found guilty of possessing seditious publications. It also proposes the appointment of a special tribunal by the prime minister to decide on seditious offenses he deems unfit to be tested by the high court, and the proceedings of the cases assigned to the tribunal will be secret.

Presenting the amendment bill, the minister for justice, Dr Polycarp Dlamini, said the bill was sought by the present government as it was felt that the 1938 Act on Sedition and Subversive Activities could not fit modern times. He said sentences in the old act are now very low, encouraging offenders to go almost free. On the question of the rather too stiff sentences in the new bill, Dr Dlamini said the judges would not be forced to impose the maximum sentences, but it will depend on the merits of individual cases.

[Mbabane *The Times of Swaziland* in English on 20 October carries on page 1 a report on the sedition bill which notes: "Late last night the Sedition and Subversive Activities Bill was passed unanimously by the House of Assembly — but with amendments. The power to decide whether a case of sedition is to be tried in the new special tribunal has been taken away from the prime minister — as the bill initially sought — and given to the King or Queen Regent. The head of state will now appoint the special tribunal instead of the prime minister. A major amendment proposed by Mr A.S.V. Dlamini to have the maximum sentences cut by half was withdrawn after considerable debate."]

Senate Passes Bill

MB201938 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The house of Senate today passed the Sedition and Subversives Bill without amendments of their own, but fully approving the amendments made by the House of Assembly last night. The amendments were that the king, with the advice of the prime minister, may appoint a special tribunal to hear and determine any charge or charges against accused persons in seditious offenses. Before being amended by the House of Assembly, the bill assigned the appointment of the tribunal to the prime minister and not to the king. The other amendment, also approved by the senators, was that there would be no appeals against a decision of the tribunal to any court.

After the minister for justice had presented the Sedition and Subversives Amendment Bill this afternoon, Senator Mary Mdziniso said small children may be subjected to the act without knowing that by picking up leaflets they are committing the offense. She also appealed that there should be nationwide publicity about the amended act. The maximum penalty sentence to convicts found guilty of seditious publication will be 20 years' imprisonment or a fine of 20,000 emalangeni.

Press Comment on RSA Raid Against ANC in Maputo

Threat to Bordering Countries

MB201230 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English 20 Oct 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Then Who Is Safe?"]

[Text] The bombing of central Maputo this week is a terrible warning for the citizens of countries bordering South Africa. Like the raid on Maseru last December, and others before, the attack was apparently made with complete disregard for human life. Anybody — including small children who know nothing about politics — could have been killed. It is clear that South Africa will set any hut on fire if she thinks there is an enemy within — even if 10 innocent people have to suffer.

Who is safe then? Should South Africa's neighbors spend their meagre resources making sure enemies do not mingle with their citizens? The nature of the operations South Africa carries out on neighbouring states also indicates that citizens of these countries are used to collect intelligence.

One wonders. Does the republic train dissident citizens of neighbouring countries to be used for blackmail? Be that as it may, frontline states, including ourselves, should avoid quarrelling too loudly among ourselves. There are people waiting to recruit dissidents to be used for their own purposes. They have agents waiting to identify those who are paranoid among us.

Let us keep our quarrels to ourselves and not push one another too far. We should also keep the number of Swazi refugees as low as is humanly possible even in these trying days.

Peaceful Solutions Urged

MB201250 Mbabane The Swazi Observer in English 20 Oct 83 p 4

[Unattributed editorial]

[Text] The incursion of South African troops into Mozambique in pursuit of the alleged African National Congress guerrillas, and the recent wave of bomb blasts in South Africa, portray a very grim picture to show that the southern African region may be ripe for another Hiroshima or Nagasaki. The pointers are there for everyone to see. With the number of casualties as a result of the bomb blasts and bombings on both sides, it is clear that the end is near and that end will be an ignominious disaster.

We hold high the value of human life and strongly depiore the wanton destruction of human life and condemn its perpetrators, whether black, white or yellow. We believe in peaceful coercion. We also believe in solving problems, be they political or otherwise, on a face-to-face basis around the table. It should be borne in mind that no amount of force will solve the problem facing South Africa on the one hand, and the ANC on the other hand.

We would beg to agree to disagree on the use of force as the ultimate way of solving the problem. We also strongly feel that the use of lethal weapons and involvement of outside powers will not manage to find a solution to the problems of this region, and, if anything, they will internationalise the problem to the extent that more innocent lives will be lost.

People in this region should learn from other countries that force begets force with the upshot that there are no victors or the vanquished. And this is the time to avoid such a catastrophe. We, therefore, appeal to the leaders in this region to forget about their personal ego and pride and work for a permanent and durable solution for the betterment of this region. The whites and blacks should at all costs avoid the unnecessary loss of blood and accommodate an attitude of give-and-take. All hope is not lost here.

We also appeal to all parties to let reasoning prevail at this hour, or the consequencies will be "too ghastly to contemplate." The dark hour is lingering and will just need one crazy man to press the button and then the whole southern Africa will be engulfed in a war of high magnitude ever seen before in the history of mankind.

ZAMBIA

President Welcomes UN Support in Investment

MB210924 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] President Kaunda has commended the UN Industrial Development Organization [UNIDO] for showing interest in investment in Zambian industries. Dr Kaunda was speaking when he hosted a reception in honor of the UNIDO delegates at State House last night. He said the fact that UNIDO investors have visited Zambia to assess possibilities of investing in the country is an encouraging sign. Dr Kaunda said he hoped UNIDO investors would see areas of investment in Zambia, saying the country was full [words indistinct] natural resources but lacked capital and technology. He said the presence of a UNIDO delegation in Zambia was a good sign because the investors would get an opportunity to assess the country's resources, and he hoped that they would offer their financial support. Dr Kaunda also pointed out that Zambia is a peace-loving nation in which everyone was treated equally, regardless of their color, creed, religious beliefs, and national origin.

Envoy in USSR Affirms Support for SWAPO, ANC

MB210918 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Zambia's ambassador to the Soviet Union, Joshua Siyolwe, yesterday assured the Soviet Union of Zambia's support to the SWAPO and ANC liberation movements in their struggle for independence. According to a dispatch from Moscow, Siyolwe, who addressed the Soviet friendship society, said yesterday the Namibian issue had reached a more complex phase than ever before. He also castigated the American connection of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola before independence can be granted. The ambassador was speaking at the commemoration of Zambia's 19th independence anniversary in Moscow House when he strongly called for the continued support (?from) the socialist countries so that Namibia can be independent as soon as possible.

Defense Official Discloses Illegal Alien Roundup

MB202012 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary of state for defense and security, Mr Grey Zulu, announced in Chililabombwe today that more than 1,000 illegal aliens had been rounded up in Kitwe since an operation clean-up by police, immigration, and army personnel started last week. Addressing heads of government departments and parastatal organizations and union, party, and church leaders at Muzengele Hall, Mr Zulu said the operation involved only four townships in the city. He said the number of foreigners staying in Zambia illegally was alarming and causing great concern to

the authorities. Mr Zulu said most of the illegal aliens were engaged in smuggling and crime and warned Zambians that they would reap the fruits of negligence if they failed to control the situation. Mr Zulu, on a 3-day tour of the Copperbelt Province to spearhead the presidential vote-yes campaign, urged Zambians to cooperate with law enforcement agents by exposing illegal aliens and their identities. He urged party officials to form vigilante groups refelected in branch and ward levels to check on crime in their areas. The defense and security chief also warned of stiff disciplinary action against any Zambian caught harboring criminals and illegal foreign immigrants.

ZIMBABWE

GDR Joint Economic Commission Session Ends

MB201945 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The finance minister of the GDR, Comrade Ernst Hoefner, has praised Zimbabwe and other nonaligned countries for their joint efforts in the settlement of conflicts and their preservation of peace. Comrade Hoefner was speaking in Harare today at the end of the first session of the Joint Economic Commission between Zimbabwe and the GDR. He also commended these countries for the solidarity with the struggling people in Namibia and apartheid-ruled South Africa. The two delegations to the Joint Economic Commission signed the agreed minutes of the meeting. They have been discussing cooperation in training, education, science and technology, and agriculture. The minister of finance, economic planning, and development, Comrade Bernard Chidzero, who was one of the signatories, said although Zimbabwe is a young country, it has clear goals and aspirations.

Senate President Departs for Kenyan Conference

MB210934 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The president of the Senate, Comrade Nolan Makombe, leaves Harare today for Nairobi, Kenya, to attend a 2-week regional conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association [CPA]. Comrade Makombe told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that the CPA conference will help parliamentarians in developing avenues of open democracy. He said the CPA seeks to foster understanding and cooperation between member-states of the Commonwealth.

African Development Fund Grants Loans for Projects

MB201130 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of finance, economic planning, and development, Comrade Bernard Chidzero, says the African Development Fund has granted Zimbabwe three loans for development projects. Comrade Chidzero told the Senate yesterday that the loans, which are interest free, are worth about $14 million. The money will be used to build a rural clinic, a rural water supply, and a (Chunyika) resettlement scheme.